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THE TIMES

No. 64,842 MONDAY JANUARY 3 1994

'Babies from dead' condemned

New fertility treatment facing ban

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

■ Test-tube baby monitors face their third ethical dilemma in a week, raising fears that scientific progress is outstripping their ability to exert control

A NEW infertility treatment that uses eggs from aborted foetuses is likely to be banned in Britain.

The technique, which specialists say could be available within three years, has been described by opponents as "womb-robbing" and as creating "babies from the dead". But it is backed by infertility specialists hampered by a shortage of donor eggs.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which licenses the clinics, is to issue a consultation document later this month, setting out the legal and ethical difficulties. Its members are said to share a "basic social revulsion" at the technique.

Dr Steve Hillier, a member of the authority and director of the Reproductive Endocrinology Laboratory at Edinburgh University, said: "There is an unquantifiable yuk factor which is very disturbing. There is a consensus that it would not be in the public interest to allow it. The authority is not taking a formal view in the consultation document, but I can't imagine it would ever condone it." However, Dr Hillier said the British Medical Association's view would be very important.

Hugh Whittall, deputy chief executive of the authority, insisted yesterday that no decisions had been reached, but said the onus lay on those who backed the technique to show that it was necessary and desirable. "There is a yuk factor which the authority recognises and wouldn't ignore. But views within society change over time."

Dr Roger Gosden, who is leading the research on the technique at Edinburgh University, has stopped his work while awaiting approval from the BMA's ethics committee. The BMA is understood to feel uncomfortable with the technique, but it does not believe it is unethical and is expected to sanction the procedure next month. Dr Stuart Horner, the chairman, said that whatever the committee's decision, it would accept any ruling from the fertilisation authority.

The technique, which has been used successfully in mice, involves growing immature eggs from the aborted foetus until they are ready for fertilisation and implantation in their new mother's womb. Ovaries in the foetus develop from 10-12 weeks gestation and all the eggs they will ever produce are present long before the baby girl is born. Each month from puberty until the menopause, an egg ripens and is shed from the ovaries, about 400 in all compared with the four million present at birth.

Specialists, church leaders and MPs queued up yesterday to voice their objections to the use of aborted foetuses. Dame Jill Knight, Tory MP for Edgbaston and chairman of the party's backbench health committee, said: "I do not understand how the medical profession could consider producing children from a mother that never existed. What will be the effect on the child when, eventually, he or she realises that basic truth?"

Anthony Clare, professor of psychiatry at Trinity College, Dublin said: "I'd be very interested to know what the mothers intend to tell their children when they grow up. They would have to say their mother has been disposed of. Has anyone asked these joyous mothers-to-be what they intend to do about that particular conundrum?"

However, Dr Gosden said that women whose ovaries had been damaged by disease would welcome the treatment. "Of course, those who are opposed to abortion will not accept that any use of the foetus is permissible, but if we believe abortion is permissible in certain circumstances, there is surely a case for using the material to benefit others."

Dr Peter Brinsden, director of the private Bourn Hall Clinic, Cambridge, welcomed the development and said its use was inevitable. "If the general public feels ready for it then I believe we should go ahead. If not, then we will have to delay. I believe it will become acceptable, certainly within the next five years."

The use of foetal eggs is the third dilemma to confront the fertilisation authority in a week, prompting fears that science is outstripping its capacity to exert control. The authority, which is made up of 21 academics, laywers, scientists and church leaders, was set up in 1990 to monitor the provision of infertility treatment. It is already grappling with the ethics of offering treatment to post-menopausal women and of giving white eggs to black mothers.

The use of foetal material is already covered by a code of practice laid down by the government-appointed Polkinghorne committee in the mid-1980s. Foetal nerve, liver and pancreatic tissue is used in the treatment of certain conditions, but the use of eggs raises new ethical dilemmas because they contain the genetic imprint that is passed to subsequent generations.



Knight: what will be the effect on the child?



Prince Henry (left) and Prince William helped their grandmother to manage the dozens of bouquets presented to the Queen Mother and the Queen at Sandringham yesterday. As the family party left church several dozen children from the crowd pressed forward with their flowers. The two young princes helped to gather them up and stow them in the boot of the Queen's car. Prince William then joined the Prince of Wales to chat to bystanders. About 2,500 people had waited at the church to watch the royal family arrive. The Queen and Queen Mother travelled by car but the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, Prince William, Prince Henry and the Duke of York walked.

Major supports Prince, page 2

Clinton to bar east Europe from Nato

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

ONLY a week before President Clinton attends the Nato summit in Brussels, he has made a U-turn by deciding not to extend membership to Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The new policy, largely designed to appease Russia, will cause deep concern in eastern Europe, where Nato membership is regarded as a precondition for the success of democratic reforms, and also in Germany. It will, however, be welcomed by the British Government, a longstanding advocate of caution.

President Clinton will present his Administration's proposal, *Partnership for Peace*, in Brussels next Monday and Tuesday, a few days before his meeting with President Yeltsin in Moscow.

The go-slow policy bears the hallmark of Strobe Talbott, the former journalist and Russia expert who was last week nominated deputy secretary of state. Mr Talbott persuaded Warren Christopher, secretary of state, to abandon his support for Nato's enlargement and highlights Mr Talbott's growing influence.

The strong performance of the Russian nationalists at last month's parliamentary elections has given further impetus to this. The argument is that immediate Nato membership would only draw a new line of division through Europe and would make the task of persuading the Ukraine to abandon its nuclear weapons more difficult. Furthermore, Mr Talbott fears that an extension of Nato would stir up anti-western sentiments in Russia.

The policy holds out Nato membership for the three countries eventually but sets no timetable and no criteria, and is thus viewed in central Europe as empty rhetoric.

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Leading article, page 13

Work for nothing until May

BY JANET BUSH

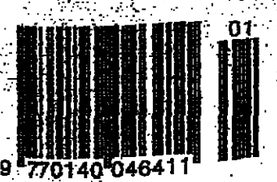
THE average Briton will have to work non-stop for 145 days, until May 24, to pay the tax man.

Every year the Adam Smith Institute publishes a calculation of what it calls "Tax Freedom Day", when average employees start earning for themselves. This year, because of the two 1993 Budgets, it will take five days longer than in 1993. In 1982, it did not arrive until June 6 but, by last year, this had been brought forward as successive Conservative governments cut taxes.

America and Japan have much earlier Tax Freedom Days — celebrated in the US, with parties, cards and gifts. This year freedom day in the US falls on May 1 and on May 2 in Japan. The European Community average is June 13.

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Power and the monarch



HOW much authority does the Queen really have at a time of political crisis? The rival powers of the monarch and her ministers is investigated in a prize-winning essay by Simon Heffer, based on authoritative interviews with royal advisers and politicians which reveal the often unspoken links between the Palace and Downing Street. Among the questions Heffer poses is: who would the Queen have called if Mrs Thatcher had died in the Brighton bomb or Mr Major in the mortar bombing of No 10? Starting tomorrow in *The Times*

The Times

● READERSHIP of *The Times* increased by 200,000 to 1.3 million between June and November 1993, a rise of 16.8 per cent — the biggest recorded by any national newspaper. Readership among the ABC1 social group and women increased by 24 per cent

Major gives IRA a month to join the peace process

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND NICHOLAS WATT

JOHN Major yesterday effectively gave the IRA until the end of the month to respond to the joint declaration on the future of Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister rejected renewed demands from Sinn Fein for concessions and warned the Republicans that they would face isolation at home and abroad unless they abandoned terrorism.

Mr Major made his remarks in response to comments by Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein vice-president, who claimed the Republicans would not accept anything short of a British withdrawal from Northern Ireland. Mr McGuinness indicated that Sinn Fein would not make a definitive response to the declaration agreed by Mr Major and Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister, until the end of this month.

The implication behind Mr Major's remarks is that he is prepared to wait until then but not for much longer. "What he [Mr McGuinness] is seeking to do is enter into negotiations. We are not entering into negotiations. The joint declaration ... lies on the table and it will stay there for a period," he said. "If they want to enter into discussions they must renounce violence."

Mr Major said he could be "patient for a little while", but the IRA would not be allowed to "fudge" its response. The only question requiring an answer was whether the IRA would lay down its weapons.

The Prime Minister also implied the threat of a security clampdown on the IRA if it spurns the accord. Senior ministers added that if the IRA snubs Mr Reynolds it can expect a "squeeze" on its activities in the South with closer patrolling of the border and tighter surveillance of terrorist suspects.

Mr McGuinness, however, reacted angrily to the threats of tougher security measures. "All they are doing is guaranteeing ... further conflict and a continuation of the struggle," he said in an interview with the Dublin *Sunday Business Post*.

On the declaration itself Mr McGuinness said that it was ambiguous on self-determination for the Irish people. He wants this to be exercised by the Irish people as a whole, while the declaration says this should be done separately on both sides of the border.

□ Gunmen opened fire on the house of Alex Maskey, a prominent Sinn Fein councillor, in West Belfast last night. Nobody one was hurt.



McGuinness: no reply until the end of January

Yeo 'may be forced to resign as minister'

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JOHN SHAW

TIM Yeo, the countryside minister, yesterday faced fresh calls from his constituency to resign after his admission that he had fathered an illegitimate child.

An extraordinary meeting of the South Suffolk association is expected to be held this week and soundings are being taken among the 40 local branches in the far-flung rural East Anglian seat where Mr Yeo, 48, has a 17,289 majority.

John Major yesterday sidestepped questions about Mr Yeo. Asked about the future of the minister in the light of his "back to basics" campaign, the Prime Minister said: "I am not going to get into the cases of individual ministers. I will deal with the general issue."

Tory MPs saw Mr Major's remarks as a retreat from his previous support for Mr Yeo, who flew home on Saturday after spending Christmas with his family in the Seychelles.

One senior backbencher, who had spoken to a number of his colleagues about Mr Yeo, said he did not rate his chances of surviving as countryside minister. He has also not been helped by John Gummer, his chief at the environment department. Mr Gummer was quoted as saying it was a matter for Mr Yeo whether he resigned.

Leading local Tories added their voices to that of Aldine Horrigan, mayor of Haverhill and vice-chairman of the

Continued on page 2, col 1

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Blair and Brown aim to change poll lead into solid support

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

LABOUR'S modernisers are preparing to take the initiative.

After several months of self-imposed silence, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, the standard-bearers of change in the party, appear to be forging arguments designed to convert Labour's poll lead into solid support.

The party's 20 per cent advantage could rapidly evaporate unless Labour does more to convince people to vote positively for it rather than as a protest against the Government.

For many senior Labour MPs, the accusation against Labour from Sir Norman Fowler, the Tory chairman, of "intellectual atrophy", came uncomfortably close to the truth.

Although work is going on behind the scenes, it is hard to dispel the impression that John Smith is less enthusiastic about radical policy and organisational review and innovation than was Neil Kinnock, his predecessor as party leader.

That absence of visible signs of change allows Sir Norman to claim that reform of Labour's constitution has ground to a halt and that Mr Smith's agenda is "warmed over Wilsonism".

Mr Smith's determination to keep his party together is both admired and respected by his leadership colleagues. For him, the battle with the unions over one member one vote for parliamentary selections dominated 1993. To win it, he needed both to reassure the unions that he was not about to break their historic links with Labour, and to control the internal battle between the modernisers and the traditionalists headed by John Prescott, who see talk of modernisation as synonymous with a shift to the right.

Both sides deferred to Mr Smith. Apart from some isolated criticism from the left of Mr Brown's taxation policies, there has been little boat-rocking in recent months. It has been quiet — for many Labour MPs, too quiet.

Now, it appears, senior members of the shadow cabinet feel it is time to speak up and encourage internal debate on policies.

One Labour insider put it: "Deferring to John Smith's desire to avoid party rows is one thing. But if that leads to the impression that Brown, Blair and the others have nothing to say, that is harmful for the party and for them."

Mr Blair and Mr Brown are expected to seek to ignite debate across a wide range of policies, beyond their respective portfolios of home affairs and the economy. There is, insiders say, no desire to be factional. But they will use speeches and articles to contribute ideas that they believe Labour must consider if it is to strengthen its appeal to the electorate.

Mr Brown will continue to strive to prevent taxation becoming the albatross for Labour at the next election that it seems to have been last time, trying to ensure that people feel a Labour victory will mean they are better off.

One Labour moderniser said: "Before we know it we will be in the run-up to the next election. Now is the time to assemble new ideas and new reasons for people to look to Labour. We cannot sit around and wait for an election victory to fall into our lap."

Major woos teachers in bid to improve discipline

By Nicholas Wood and John O'Leary

JOHN Major yesterday appealed to teachers to join the Government in a campaign to raise standards of discipline in schools.

Saying he wanted to "reinforce" the authority of heads and their staff, the Prime Minister promised to give them greater powers and to protect them against malicious allegations from unruly pupils. His remarks came as John Patten, the Education Secretary, prepared for tomorrow's launch of a two-pronged initiative to tackle classroom disruption.

Official guidelines will lay down a model system of rewards and punishments underpinned by contracts between schools and parents. New referral units will be established in each area for pupils who do not respond.

Offering an olive branch to a profession that has repeatedly clashed with the Conservatives over the past decade and boycotted classroom tests — a key plank in the government's reforms — Mr Major said: "I want to work with teachers and the teacher unions wherever that is possible to improve education for our children. I don't want war in the classroom ... we have joint interests and we ought to develop those joint interests."

In a BBC radio interview Mr Major said he wanted to revive lasting "community values" such as respect, courtesy, self-discipline and obedience to the law, which enjoyed the instinctive backing of the British people but had been "pushed aside" over the past 20 or 30 years. His approach touched every aspect of government policy but had particular relevance to schools.

While not wishing to return to the "harsh regimentation" of his school days, Mr Major did want to strengthen the hands of heads and teachers and he also wanted to see a revival of school rules, uniforms, homework and team sports.

"Many headteachers would argue these days that they have less authority than they themselves would wish. We do need to establish an orderly atmosphere in schools," he said.

The teacher unions had complained that the existing law raised doubts over whether teachers could give pupils detention. "If there are doubts about that, we owe it to the teachers to remove those doubts," he said.

Ministers would re-examine the 1989 Children Act in the light of union claims that it fostered "bogus allegations" about staff and made it more difficult for them to control troublemakers.

The school referral units, already nicknamed "sin bins", would be set up in every local authority to ensure that the thousands of pupils excluded from mainstream schools continued to receive an education. Funding will be transferred from the old school to the referral unit, partly as an incentive to expel pupils only as a last resort.

Ministers believe schools can cut down the number of exclusions if they re-establish firmer discipline. Guidelines are expected to emphasise the value of public praise for achievement and good behaviour, as well as the need for sanctions such as detention and the withdrawal of privileges for the unruly.

Education, page 29

Yeo protest mounts

Continued from page 1

town's Conservative Association, who has written to Mr Major asking him to reconsider his backing for the MP.

Mark Newman, chairman of the Great Cornard branch, said that feelings towards Mr Yeo at an hour-long meeting on Friday had not been favourable. "We felt he should resign as a minister and I think the questionnaires will show that most people want him to quit as our MP."

Peter Beer, a councillor, said he detected a strong feeling in the constituency that Mr Yeo should stand down from the Government, although opinion was divided on whether he should remain as an MP.

Mrs Horrigan's letter said she was appalled at Mr Yeo's conduct. She told the Prime Minister: "He has let you down, as did David Mellor. It is right for you to demand his resignation to show that you will not stand this kind of behaviour to represent you or the Tory party". Returning from church yesterday Mrs Horrigan said: "I had a lot of support for my views."

The Haverhill Tory branch has about 200 members and Colin Spalding, the chairman, said about 50 per cent believed Mr Yeo should go because he had lost credibility.

Mr Yeo has admitted fathering Claudia-Marie, now five months old, as a result of his affair with Julia Stent, 34, Tory councillor in the east London borough of Hackney.

Correction

The article *Plagued by Politics* (December 18) incorrectly reported that Jenny Barraclough's programmes on Aids had appeared on BBC television. The series, *The Plague*, appeared on Channel 4. We apologise for the error.



Paul Mummery and his daughter Alison, 4: dreaded knock on the door

Crushed WPC moves her toes

By Michael Horsnell

A POLICEWOMAN who was left with spinal injuries at the roadside after a joyrider twice ran over her gave doctors cautious optimism for her recovery last night when she was able to move her toes.

WPC Deborah Mummery, 31, a mother of two young children, was injured after she and a woman colleague stopped the stolen car in Oadby, Leicestershire.

A youth is helping police with their enquiries into the incident on New Year's Eve.

Paul Mummery, 33, a civilian police worker, held the couple's daughter Alison, 4, as he appealed for help in tracing a second youth involved in the incident. He said: "For eight years I have dreaded that knock on the door and when it comes it is indescribable."

The couple, who met when Deborah was a cadet, have been married for eight years and have another child, Simon, 15 months.

"If society tolerates this — an attack on the agency that is protecting it — then where do we go?" Mr Mummery said.

Mr Mummery said his wife loved her job: "I know that when she is better she will want to be back in the force."

WPC Mummery was with WPC Patricia Ford, 35, when they spotted the stolen Vauxhall Astra and gave chase. Police said that when WPC Mummery approached the driver to talk to him, he reversed the car, knocking her to the ground, then drove over her and collided with the police car, crushing her between the two. She also suffered a broken arm. The stolen car was recovered soon afterwards.

Carey to meet rival Sudanese rebel chiefs

By Staff Reporters

THE Archbishop of Canterbury will meet southern Sudan's warring rebel commanders in Nairobi today at the end of his controversial four-day visit to the country.

Dr George Carey is expected to have talks with John Garang and Riak Machar, leaders of rival movements seeking freedom from Islamic domination in the south of the country, in a bid to bring them closer together. After two years of fighting, the rival groups have inflicted more casualties on each other than has the Sudanese government.

Diplomats in Nairobi, where Dr Carey is staying after visiting Sudan, offered little guidance yesterday on the talks' likely agenda. Since the theme of Dr Carey's Sudanese visit emphasised his concern for the country's three million Christians, it is likely that he will ask the two Christian and Western-educated leaders to set aside their differences.

"If the Archbishop is able to bring Garang and Machar back together, or even agree to stop their internecine war, he will be responsible for nothing less than a miracle," one Western diplomat said.

Both sides have committed atrocities, including the sacking of towns in which hundreds died. Thousands more have perished in the famine that followed. Dr Machar, a graduate of Strathclyde University, is popularly seen as a moderate compared with the US-educated Dr Garang, with whom he split in 1991, citing human rights abuses.

There were also hints from Khartoum, the Sudanese capital, yesterday that the Government might be willing to reverse its decision to expel the British ambassador, Peter Streams. Mr Streams was given two weeks to leave after a diplomatic row apparently sparked off by arrangements for Dr Carey's visit.

A highly placed political source quoted yesterday in a Government newspaper suggested that the expulsion could be rescinded if Britain understood why it had been ordered. Britain has given Sudan until tomorrow to reverse the order.

Prince wins praise from Downing St

By Alan Hamilton

THE Prince of Wales, embroiled in controversy over his failed marriage and his future role, yesterday earned high praise from John Major, who regards the heir to the throne as doing "a superb job".

In an interview on *The World This Weekend* on BBC Radio 4, the Prime Minister gave the Prince his unequivocal backing for work that was often unsung. Mr Major's support comes in the wake of the Prince's complaint that he received insufficient Government backing for his foreign visits to promote British trade.

Mr Major told his interviewer, James Naughtie: "I see at closer quarters much of the work he does abroad for this country. It is often unremarked upon and unwelcomed. It ought to be remarked upon and ought to be welcomed."

Mr Major said it was "unsettling" for ordinary people to find institutions such as the monarchy under continued attack and it had added to the general air of gloom. "I hope we can get through this difficult period and have a period of stability."

A crowd of 2,500 were at Sandringham yesterday to watch members of the Royal family make their traditional Sunday morning walk to church. But they were disappointed not to see the newest member of the cast.

Sophie Rhys-Jones, 28, a public relations consultant who has been romantically linked with Prince Edward, was a guest at the Queen's Norfolk home for the New Year weekend, and was driven to a side door of the church.

Protocol is strict, and Miss Rhys-Jones's relationship with the Queen's youngest son is clearly regarded as unofficial, although there has been speculation that the couple will announce their engagement in March.

The crowd had to be content with seeing Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Prince William and Prince Harry. The Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother travelled by car.

The young princes are expected to remain with their father until the end of the school holidays, while their mother continues her holiday in Washington.

A spokesman for the Princess of Wales yesterday dismissed as "highly speculative" a report that she was examining the relative merits of several Oxford colleges for her elder son's higher education, rather than Cambridge, where her husband took his degree.

Photograph, page 1

Mawhinney wants hospital conciliators

Patients may soon be able to turn to local ombudsmen to resolve complaints about the National Health Service. Brian Mawhinney, the health minister, told *The Times* that he would like to see independent conciliators based at hospitals and big health centres to receive initial complaints.

Dr Mawhinney said he believed that many complaints could be resolved quickly if patients were offered an alternative to the existing bureaucratic machinery. His remarks come against the background of a 35 per cent rise in complaints about hospital treatment in 1992, to a total of 45,000.

☐ Labour said yesterday that 22 per cent of outpatients, two million people, were not seen within 30 minutes of their appointment times as pledged in the patients' charter, and that 20 per cent of emergency cases, 550,000 patients, were not assessed immediately as promised.

Yacht towed to safety

Scarborough lifeboat had to tow a yacht to safety early yesterday after it got into difficulties in a heavy swell with a strong wind. The two crew aboard *The Quiraing* had reported trouble locating the harbour entrance and after being given directions, ran out of fuel in the North Bay. The entire Yorkshire coast had heavy snow, sleet showers and 50mph southeasterly winds early in the day but heavy rain soon cleared treacherous roads. Later, Scarborough, Whitby and Filey had bright, breezy weather with showers.

Weather forecast, page 16

Malkin home this week

Peter Malkin, 54, who kidnapped his son Oliver, 12, from his ex-wife and took him to Egypt, will return to Britain on Thursday, it was reported last night by Sky News. Oliver was snatched in November in France, where he was living with his mother, Elisa Pridmore, who has taken legal action in the High Court to seize her ex-husband's assets.

Plea to vice girl clients

Police investigating the murder of a prostitute have appealed to her clients for help in catching the killer. Samo Paul, 20, of Rowley Regis, West Midlands, was last seen in a taxi on her way to Balsall Heath red-light district of Birmingham, in early December. Her body was found four days ago 40 miles away in a ditch near Lutterworth.

Street star recovering



The *Coronation Street* actress Jill Summers, left, is resting in hospital after undergoing tests. Miss Summers, 82, who plays Phyllis Pearce, was admitted to Pinderfields Hospital in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, on Wednesday after feeling unwell. A spokeswoman said yesterday: "She is fine and we decided to keep her in for a rest." Granada said it hoped she would return to the show this month.

Taxi clue in rapist hunt

Police were visiting taxi ranks in Southampton yesterday to try to find a cab driver who might have witnessed a rape after a New Year's Eve party at a pub in the city. A 38-year-old single woman was found half-naked next to a road after she left the party and shared a cab with her attacker. The rape happened when they were dropped off by the driver.

Driver run over twice

A motorist was run over twice after walking for help when his car broke down. Robert Barker, 35, was on the verge of a slip road of the M11 near Harlow, Essex, when he was hit by a car after the driver lost control on ice. He was receiving attention when a second car skidded over him. A passer-by and an ambulancewoman were also hurt.

Expedition in Moscow

A team of six adventurers seeking to complete the first overland drive from London to New York arrived in Moscow yesterday. They will undertake survival training before heading into Siberia on the next leg of the 15,500 mile trip. The team set off from Westminster Bridge on December 27 and hopes to arrive in New York by March 31.

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Soaring book sales open new chapter in publishers' fortunes

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

BOOK sales rose to record levels in 1993. Exceptionally high sales in the run-up to Christmas were led by the paperback edition of *Wild Swans*, Jung Chang's harrowing account of the lives of three generations of women in 20th century China.

A straw poll of booksellers around the country indicates that the other best-sellers in December were *Bravo Two-Zero*, Andy McNab's account of his secret SAS mission in Iraq during the Gulf War, and Roddy Doyle's Booker Prize-winner *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*.

Life in the Freezer, Sir David Attenborough's book accompanying his BBC Television wildlife series, and Baroness Thatcher's *The Downing Street Years* also featured high on Christmas present lists.

The unprecedented rush for books this Christmas helped to boost the number of fiction and leisure works sold in 1993 by 2.5 million to 328.5 million. The retail value of consumer book sales in the UK rose by £41 million to £1.74 billion, according to a survey conducted by the market research organisation MarketLine.

Julian Toland, sales development director at Waterstone's Booksellers, which has 90 branches throughout the UK and Ireland, said that sales were about 10 per cent higher in December 1993 than in 1992.

"In Christmas week alone we sold more than £6 million worth of books," Mr Toland said.

John Monk, deputy managing director of the chain Books etc., said that turnover had risen by about 5 per cent in 1993.

This was despite the fact that three of the company's ten London stores were within the City of London "ring of steel" security cordon, and had lost custom as a result, he added.

When academic and professional texts are taken into account, book sales for 1993 stand at about 402.5 million copies, commanding a retail value of £2.7 billion. MarketLine's research shows that publishers expect that figure to reach £2.95 billion by the end of 1994, an increase of more than 9 per cent.

According to the MarketLine survey, sales of consumer books accounted for about 5 per cent of recreational spending in 1993, a slight increase on previous years, despite the fact that book prices have continued to rise faster than the rate of inflation.

The research shows that consumer books are expected to continue to dominate the market, accounting for nearly 70 per cent of sales.

The significance of hardbacks, which currently account for 26 per cent of retail sales revenue, is expected to decline as more books, including academic texts and new fiction, are published only in paperback.

Although people are buying more books, library borrowings continued to decline in 1993.

Katherine Reid, of MarketLine, said: "There is a feeling in the industry that as people feel more rushed in their daily lives, they find the location and opening times of public libraries inconvenient and would rather own books than borrow them."

Year of the blockbuster, page 25

Chinese saga wins high praise and sales

JUNG Chang's *Wild Swans*, an imaginatively reconstructed family saga set in 20th century China, shot to the top of the best-sellers' list when it first appeared in hardback last year (Daniel Johnson writes). It has evidently been an even bigger success in paperback.

Enthusiastic reviews — it won high praise from Antonia Fraser in *The Times* — and word of mouth were the main factors, but these were reinforced by a sophisticated marketing campaign which made full use of the author's glamorous persona. Jung Chang's family belonged to the ruling elite and *Wild Swans* offers a glimpse of how the Chinese revolution devoured its own children. But it also reminds the reader of continuities between imperial and communist regimes. China's economic growth exceeds that of any other great power, yet horrific facts are emerging all the time about the Chinese Gulags, where many of our cheap goods are made, and about the forced sterilisation of women.

Jung Chang's story, though it concerns comparatively privileged individuals, helps to make sense of the sleeping giant which is awakening.



Jung Chang, author of the lauded "Wild Swans"



An artist's impression of the Treasury in the Tower of London's new Jewel House. The building, which cost £10 million, opens in March



Bob Melling, curator of the Crown Jewels

Crown Jewels move to safer and more spacious setting

BY ALAN HAMILTON

ONE of the world's leading tourist attractions will close next Sunday in preparation for a historic move. The Crown Jewels are soon to have a new home.

Work is almost finished on a bigger Jewel House within the Tower of London, built at a cost of £10 million to replace the cramped bunker that has housed Britain's best-known treasures since 1967. The revamped display, due to open on March 24, has been made possible by removal of part of the Royal Armouries collection to Leeds.

The old subterranean Jewel House, which could well have withstood a nuclear attack, was designed to handle 5,000 visitors a day, but such is the attraction that at peak periods it had three times that number.

More than two million visitors a year enter the Tower and most view the jewels. Nearly three quarters are foreign visitors; to most Britons, the Crown Jewels are a dim memory from a childhood visit.

The Historic Royal Palaces Agency, which runs the Tower, hopes the new display will eliminate queues. Visitors will be carried past the most important pieces on a moving walkway and those wishing to linger will be able to do so on a raised platform. The rooms will be dimly lit, wafer-thin bulletproof glass will create the illusion that there is no glass at all, fibre optics will carry pencils of light to highlight key parts of each item, and an ethereal glow will emanate from the silk cushions.

Instead of exhibiting all the jewels together, the display will put many pieces in individual cases, there will be explanations and an exhibition to put jewels in context.

The jewels will be moved during the next few weeks under the tightest security, including an armed guard. There has been only one theft before: in 1671 when Thomas Blood made off with Charles II's crown, only to be apprehended at the gate.

Visitors will have a powerful reminder that they are looking at the regalia of a functioning monarchy; every so often a crown will be missing, replaced by a card that says simply: "In use."



Exhibition piece: the sceptre

Man, 64, dies of heart attack confronting burglars

BY EMMA WILKINS

A MAN aged 64 died from a heart attack after chasing one burglar out of a neighbour's house and confronting another armed with several knives.

Jack Napper, a retired motor company manager from Cossington, Somerset, went to investigate flashing lights at a neighbour's home on New Year's Eve. He chased one man out of the house and caught the other outside the back door with help from his wife Mavis, 61, and Les Press, the local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.

Mrs Napper went home to telephone police as her husband and Mr Press, 74, cornered the burglar in the kitchen. The man escaped after seizing several kitchen knives and jumping out of the window, Avon and Somerset police said yesterday.

Mr Napper, who worked as a tyre depot manager, collapsed and was later found to be dead by a local doctor. He had suffered a minor heart attack five months ago, Mr Press's wife Catherine said yesterday.

Mrs Press said: "Jack would not have hesitated even though he had a heart attack in August. He was the salt of the earth — a lovely man who would do anything for anybody. He was certainly not the faint-hearted type."

Ruth Gane, who lives near by, said: "It's typical that Mr Napper was keeping an eye on a neighbour's property. Up until about two years ago it was very quiet here, but there have been a number of break-ins and attempted burglaries recently."

Police want to question a white man in his early twenties, of athletic build, with dark hair. He was wearing a plaid jacket and dark trousers.

The second man is described as clean shaven with long blond hair swept back. He was wearing a light blue jacket with a crest on the back.

Child agency 'giving out confidential information'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL AND GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE controversial Child Support Agency was accused yesterday of breaching the Data Protection Act by passing on confidential computerised details of divorced people to their former spouses.

The allegation was made by Absent Parents Asking for Reasonable Treatment (Apart), which claimed that the agency had passed on personal information about the earnings of former husbands and their new partners as ammunition in maintenance disputes.

It is believed that the Data Protection Registrar, the Government's watchdog, has begun an investigation into the increase in complaints against the agency, already embroiled in a parliamentary row over its role.

No comment was available from the agency yesterday, but it is believed to have received guidance from the registrar on the limits to which it can go before breaching confidentiality.

Malcolm Jones, chairman of Apart, said: "What is going on is wrong and unjustified, and in contravention of legislation that was designed to protect individuals from unwarranted intrusion."

Mr Jones, 46, earns £34,000 a year as a fire officer at Waddington, Lincolnshire. His monthly payment to his former wife for their 14-year-old son has been raised by the agency from £200 to £530. Mr Jones, who is remarried with a 2½-year-old daughter, confirmed that his former wife had received a letter from the agency detailing confidential information about his income.

"She knows personal details to which she has no entitlement," he said. "Confidential information is being passed on all the time by the CSA. I love both my children equally, but what has happened is grossly unfair."

In another case, James Grant, a bus driver, received a maintenance demand from the agency for a child born when Mr Grant was only nine years old. Mr Grant, 24, from Glasgow, received the demand dated December 19 informing him that he had been named as the father of a boy, now 15. The letter was sent by the agency's office in Hastings, East Sussex.

Mr Grant's mother Bridget, who phoned the agency to point out the error, was told it was not prepared to discuss the case. She said her son had received no apology or explanation for the mistake.

A local spokesman for the agency said it was a genuine error. It would be sending a letter of apology and would investigate the mistake.

Letters, page 13

The Mini rallies for middle-age challenge

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE Mini, the little box on wheels said to have been designed on the back of a cigarette packet, is to challenge modern, robot-built rivals on the twists and turns of the Monte Carlo rally later this month.

Rover has entered the car for one of the world's sternest motoring challenges to celebrate 35 years in production. Paddy Hopkirk has been given the same number 37 he had for the Mini's first Monte Carlo win 30 years ago and will drive one of three Mini Coopers from the start on January 22.

The Mini won the Monte Carlo four times in the 1960s, but Mr Hopkirk is realistic enough to know that technology has moved on apace. "Some modern rally cars have brakes as big as Mini wheels," he said.

However, the Mini shows no signs of wilting as it heads into middle age. It started life under the Austin and Morris badges, became the BLMC Mini, then the BL Mini and now, 5.27 million cars later, it is sold as a Rover.

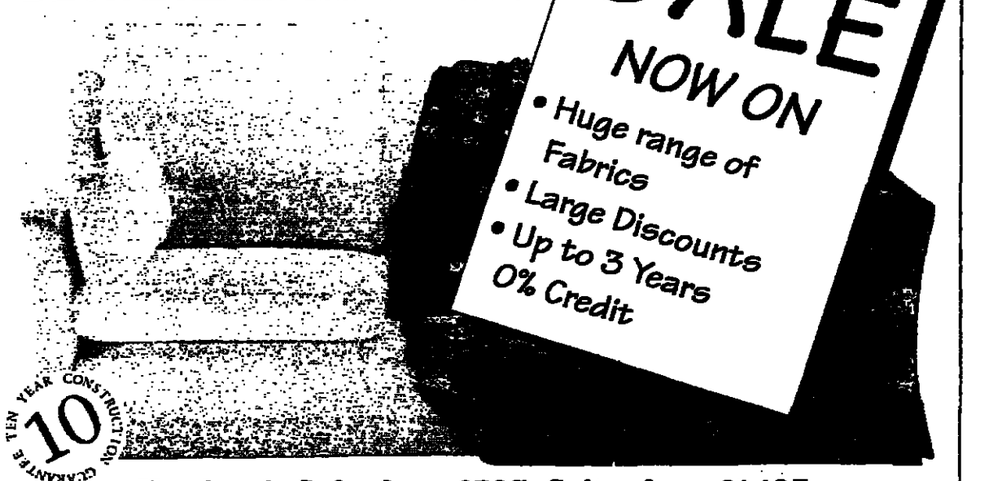
Rover makes 450 Minis a week at its Longbridge plant in Birmingham, with 60 per cent exported. In Japan, the Mini has more street credibility than almost any other foreign marque. The Japanese buy more Minis than anyone else, taking more than 7,300 last year compared with about 6,000 in the UK.

Even as cars, turn into turbo-charged creatures of the computer, the Mini is still the definitive small car. Every engineer agrees it was a work of genius by the late Sir Alec Issigonis, whose previous cars included the Morris Minor. His brief was to better the bubble car but design a car compact enough for city parking.

Prices now start at £5,295, still one of the cheapest on the road, but how long can it stay in production? George Simpson, Rover's chairman, says the car remains a "nice little earner".

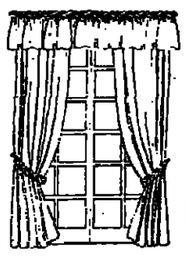
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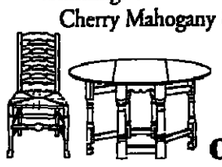


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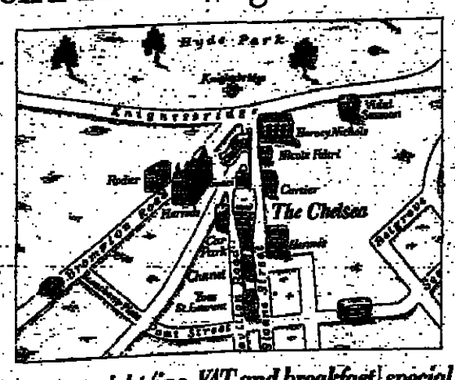
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Snow breaks 1,000ft fall for three times lucky hiker

BY RICHARD DUCE

THREE chance elements combined to save the life of a walker who plunged 1,000ft from the summit of a Scottish mountain and survived, rescuers said yesterday.

Nicholas Jackson, 27, fell through a shelf of snow at the top of 4,000ft Aonach Beag, near Ben Nevis, while out walking with two friends on a clear New Year's Day.

He suffered serious head injuries in the initial 200ft drop on to rocks below but then slid a further 800ft into a deep snow gully where he lay for two hours before rescuers could reach him.

As well as the deep snow which cushioned much of his fall, Mr Jackson owes his life to the fact that an RAF Sea King helicopter was only ten minutes from the scene when the alarm was eventually raised by his two friends. He was also lucky not to have been buried beneath snow after his fall.

Donald Watt, of the Lochaber mountain rescue team, who found Mr Jackson, said yesterday that the normal flying time from RAF Lossiemouth to the mountain would have been an hour.

"Daylight was fading fast and if the helicopter had not been so close on its way back from somewhere it is possible that we would not have got him down until the following day," Mr Watt said.

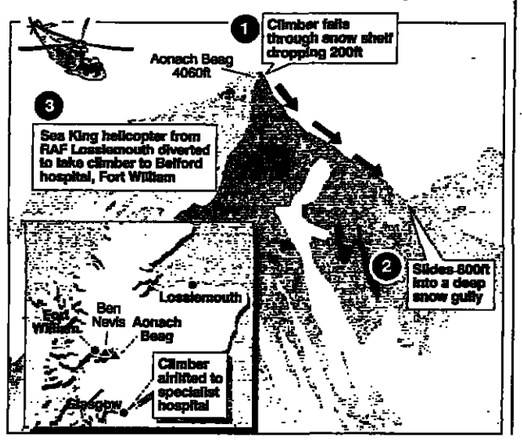
Mr Jackson, an electronics software engineer from Luton, Bedfordshire, was flown by helicopter to hospital at Fort William but then transferred by air to Glasgow's specialist Southern General Hospital. His condition yesterday, following the first mountain accident of the New Year, was said to be stable.

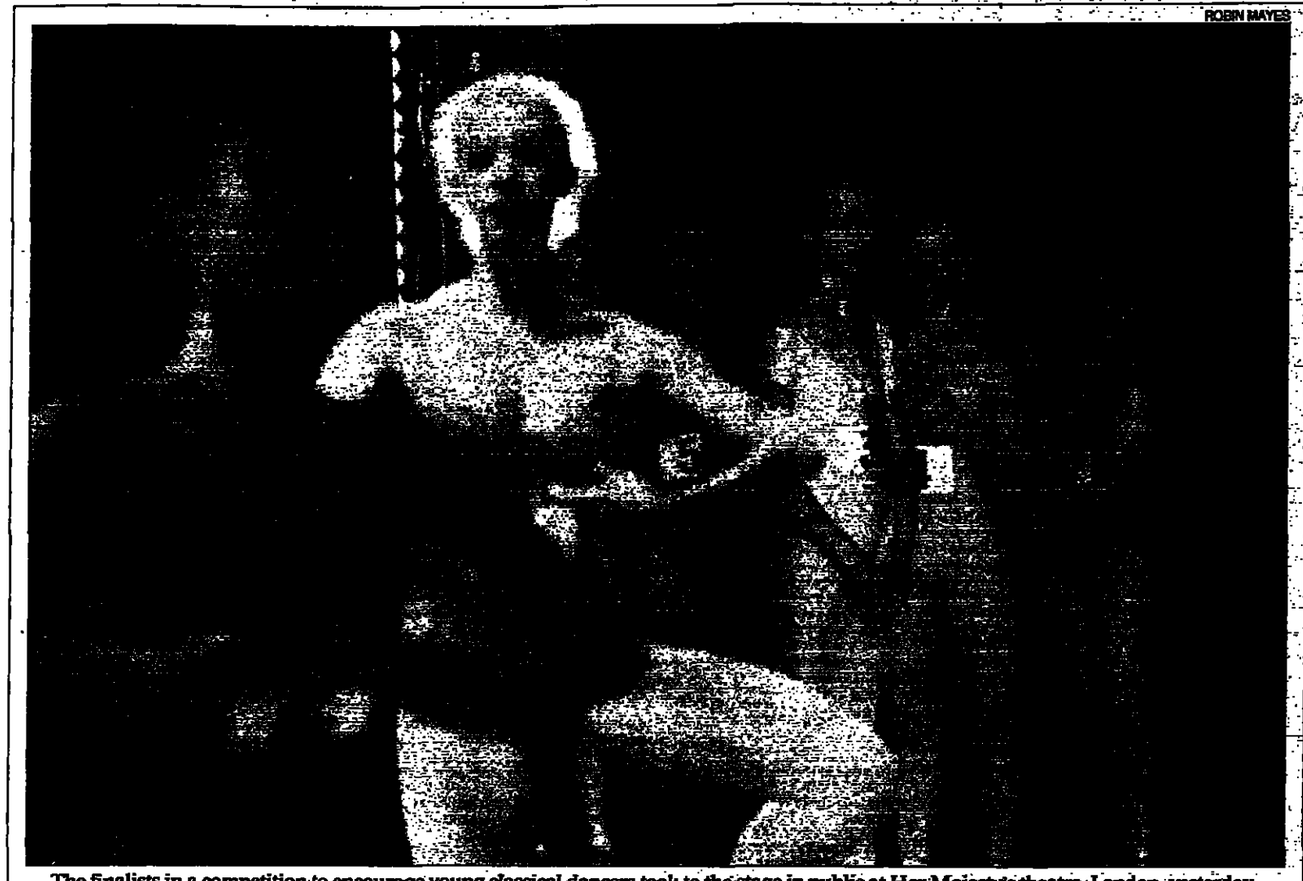
Mr Watt said: "I would have given pretty long odds on anyone surviving that fall. The saving factor was the amount and depth of snow which cushioned him to some extent. He didn't get buried in the snow which was another saving factor.

"Obviously he made a serious mistake. These mountains are a serious proposition in winter and if you are out there you would have to call it mountaineering rather than walking."

Mr Jackson is thought to have fractured his skull in the fall. He was conscious when found, but already beginning to suffer the effects of hypothermia. Mr Jackson, who is single, works for Marconi Instruments in Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Graham Wilkinson, a friend from Luton, said yesterday: "Nick is very intelligent and a brilliant engineer. He is a quiet person who likes travelling, skiing and climbing. He spends most of his money on his climbing and trips. Every year he goes to Scotland climbing."





ROBIN MAYES

The finalists in a competition to encourage young classical dancers took to the stage in public at Her Majesty's theatre, London, yesterday. Twelve dancers were competing for the Digital Genée awards, judged by a panel including Antoinette Sibley, president of the Royal Academy of Dancing and a former ballerina with the Royal Ballet. The winners will receive funding towards further dance training

Solicitors face open tribunals

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

■ Open hearings are to be introduced as a record number of lawyers are being called before disciplinary proceedings

ONE of the most secret courts in the country, the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal, is to open its doors to the public as the number of lawyers appearing before it approaches record levels.

Some 200 solicitors out of the 60,000 practising in England and Wales were called to appear in the tribunal's oak-panelled chamber in central London in the 12 months up to April last year to face charges that often end a professional career.

On present trends, the number for the year to next April is likely to have risen by 20 per cent, according to Barrie Marsh, the solicitor who is president of the tribunal.

"I think we are still seeing some of the solicitors who got into property into a big way before the slump," he said. "When things turned against them they found themselves in difficulties." The decision to hold public hearings, as the General Medical Council does, was reached after many months of debate by the tribunal's 25 members and after previous decisions to remain private.

The draft rules for open hearings, which have been endorsed by Sir Thomas Bingham, the Master of the Rolls, are still with the Lord Chancellor's department but are expected to be approved within weeks.

Mr Marsh, who has always been strongly in favour of openness, said opinion had changed. The argument against had always been that if a solicitor was accused and acquitted, a public hearing would have done "tremendous damage", he said.

"But everybody now feels that openness in the process outweighs any such objection. There is more of a view that if you have justice behind closed doors, then that raises the question of whether it is true justice."

There had been concerns previously about client confidentiality. However, for some time that had been tackled by ensuring that clients were not named and were referred to by initials.

Another factor raised by Sir Thomas was that the European Convention on Human Rights said that disciplinary hearings ought to be in public.

At present the tribunal hearings, where solicitors face penalties ranging from a reprimand to being struck off, are in private unless a solicitor requests an open hearing.



Marsh: closed-door justice is suspect

Tribunal staff can recall only one such request in the past five years.

The new rules will reverse that, so that hearings will be open unless there are compelling reasons for holding them in private. The tribunal intends to take a robust line with applications for privacy. "If they do apply, they are unlikely to succeed," Mr Marsh said.

He takes as his model the industrial tribunal, which is familiar to him as an employment law practitioner. "Employers on occasion do ask for hearings to be private because they are concerned about sensitive information being disclosed. But it would be granted only in very exceptional circumstances."

Mr Marsh intends to make it routine to announce the tribunal's finding immediately, giving reasons later. At the moment judgment is reserved for six to eight weeks.

Solicitors are usually referred to the tribunal by the Solicitors Complaints Bureau, although members of the public can refer cases. Criminal charges may follow a tribunal hearing.

In the year up to April 1993, 200 cases were referred. Of the cases heard, 52 solicitors were struck off, 25 suspended from practice, 54 fined from £250 to £5,000 and four reprimanded.

MP's home life inspires series on teenagers

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE turbulent family life of Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Birmingham Erdington, is the inspiration for a six-part documentary television series, *Living with the Enemy*, starting on BBC1 next week.

The series, which focuses on the conflict between parents and their teenage children, was devised by Mr Corbett's wife, Val, and inspired in part by the couple's relationship with their daughter Polly, 18. Mrs Corbett, an independent television producer and former journalist, said she hoped the series would help other families.

"I realised we couldn't be the only parents going through this and decided to make a series which shows what it is like living with the enemy from both sides of the battlefield," she said.

Mrs Corbett said her problems began when Polly turned 14. "She became selfish and grumpy and paid no attention to other people's feelings. What struck me was how sudden the change was and how precisely and universally it mirrored what other people I know were experiencing.

"Polly and I both felt the other was our enemy. I felt like I was a single parent, bearing the brunt because Robin was so rarely there."

Working from the premise that teenagers and parents will inevitably clash, Mrs Corbett says the series is intended as a "how to" guide to better living together. The family is now reconciled and Mrs Corbett describes Polly, who has started a media studies course at college, as "a delightful daughter".

Although the television series does not include the Corbett family's problems, it uses other parents and teenagers as presenters and combines video diaries, interviews, mini-dramas performed by a "family" of actors, fly-on-the-wall footage and studio discussions led by John Heron, a psychologist.

The series tackles a wide range of issues, from sex to messy bedrooms. It also looks at how teenagers cope when parents split up and what happens when a parent moves a new partner into the home. *Living with the Enemy* is part of the BBC's programmes for the United Nations Year of the Family.

Backing for Jenkins on virgin birth

DAVID Jenkins, the Bishop of Durham, received the backing of Scotland's top churchman yesterday over his controversial comments about the virgin birth.

The Right Rev James Weatherhead, moderator of the general assembly of the Church of Scotland, said the virgin birth need not be viewed as a literal truth. He said the Bible was full of symbolism, written in language more poetic than legal, and "perhaps the virgin birth is best thought of as a symbol too".

Dr Weatherhead, preaching at St Giles cathedral, Edinburgh, also attacked the "media vultures" whose views on heresy were based on their own "mediocre understanding of theology". He gave a warning that treating symbols as legalistic orthodoxy was to enter the realm of persecution and inquisition.

"May it not be the case that at least some of today's so-called heretics are really following the example of Jesus by questioning conventional orthodoxies?" he said.

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Tunnel price war may cost jobs

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

FERRY companies are planning to reduce services and cut up to 500 jobs to meet the threat posed by the Channel tunnel, which opens in May. The extent of the Channel war will become clear tomorrow week when Sir Alistair Morton, Eurotunnel's chief executive, unveils the price structure designed to entice passengers away from the ferry companies. Tickets will go on sale the next day.

Eurotunnel yesterday described as speculation reports that fares for Le Shuttle, which will take cars through the £10 billion tunnel, will range from about £160 to £260 depending on the season.

By comparison, a five-day return fare for a car and up to nine passengers on P&O European Ferries from Dover to Calais costs between £77 and £160, depending on the time of year, and between £139 and £289 for an unrestricted return ticket.

Fares for foot passengers who travel on the Eurostar train service between London, Paris and Brussels, which begins a limited service in June, will be pitched to compete with air fares from Heathrow. The fares will be levied by British Rail and SNCF, its French equivalent.

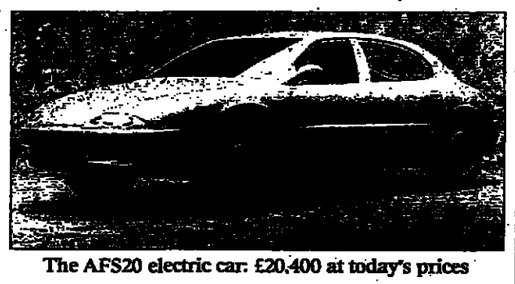
At present, foot passengers on the ferries can make the return journey to Calais for just £8. Starting today, the ferries will begin the traditional off-season discounts enabling passengers to travel for just £1 in the hope they will spend freely in the duty-free shops. Despite heavy discounting, the ferries expect a high proportion of the 18 million passengers who travel by sea each year to desert them for Le Shuttle, which initially will carry 180 cars and passengers twice an hour from Folkestone to Calais.

A spokesman for P&O said yesterday that if trade was hard hit, two of the ten superferries, which can carry more than 600 cars, could be withdrawn and placed on different routes.

P&O is also holding talks with unions to reduce the workforce by more than 450 in anticipation of falling revenue when the tunnel opens. Ferry companies are resigned to losing trade in the first year of Eurotunnel operations if only because of novelty value.

With Le Shuttle, however, travellers are virtually confined to their cars during the 30-minute journey. Ferry companies hope travellers will return to them once they have experienced the train.

In a separate development, ferry companies have vowed to fight after the Office of Fair Trading refused them permission to operate integrated services similar to those allowing airline passenger to transfer tickets from one company to another. They claim the move has given Eurotunnel an unfair advantage and are planning to gather fresh evidence once the tunnel is operating to renew their pressure on the Government.



The AFS20 electric car: £20,400 at today's prices

Detroit sees end of road for petrol cars

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

AN electric car that may break the dominance of the internal combustion engine will be unveiled this week at one of the world's leading automobile shows.

The four-door luxury sedan, which is powered by a flywheel battery, will be unveiled at the Los Angeles Auto Show on Thursday. It has been designed by AFS Paradigm, a joint venture between American Flywheel Systems and a leading Detroit-based car developer.

A full production version, which has a Chrysler chassis and is claimed to be less than three years away, would cost about $30,000 (£20,400) at today's prices.

Supporters believe the AFS20, a prototype, has the key technology to rival the petrol-driven car and its polluting fumes, particularly in urban areas.

Unlike rival electric vehicles, whose dependence on chemical batteries have kept them on the fringes, the new five-seater car uses batteries with flywheels charged from the household mains. Their discs and magnets spin at up to 200,000 rpm and are housed in a vacuum to reduce friction. They can propel a car up to 600 miles on a single charge. The batteries can be boosted in 20 minutes or fully recharged in six hours.

A tank of petrol gives a rival car a range of about 320 miles. The General Motors Impact 3, a prototype electric car which uses conventional batteries, takes up to eight hours to recharge and has a range of 113 miles.

A flywheel-powered vehicle can accelerate to 60 miles an hour in 6.5 seconds — against 9.1 seconds for a comparable petrol model — and produces no carbon monoxide, lead or dust particles.

It is being backed by former engineers with Nasa, the US space agency, Honeywell, Elliott Richardson, the former US defence secretary, James Schlesinger, the former US energy secretary, and Mike Deland, the former chairman of the White House council on environmental quality.

Police fear timeshare con revived

BY A STAFF REPORTER

FRAUD squad detectives are concerned that a company which they believe conned thousands of pounds out of holiday home owners desperate to sell their timeshare properties has sold its address list to a new group using the same ploy.

Detectives are trying to trace three directors of Globex Worldwide Ltd, a timeshare resale company that operated in Liverpool and Altrincham, Greater Manchester, between September 1991 and March 1992.

About 400 people responded to advertisements to register with Globex, which offered to find buyers for timeshare properties. They would then receive a telephone call saying a buyer had been found, but the customer must pay £180 to cover searches and expenses. Customers forwarded their cheques, but the sales never went through.

Now customers who lost money to Globex are receiving calls from a Dublin-based company.

One of the first Globex casualties to be contacted by the Irish company was Bernard Grossmith, 68, from Essex, who in 1986 bought a two-week Lanzarote timeshare with his wife.

Mr Grossmith's wife took the call from the new company, asking for money to complete the sale of their timeshare. She told the caller they had already lost money to Globex and that the police were involved and he rang off.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

PCA Qualifyers

THE seven players who have qualified from Groningen to join Nigel Short in the quarter-finals of the PCA World Chess Championship have now been named.

They are: Michael Adams (United Kingdom) and Vishy Anand (India), who both scored 7.5 out of 11 and won $35,000 each in prize money. Also through to the championship are Gata Kamsky (USA), Vladimir Kramnik (Russia), Sergei Tiviakov (Russia), Boris Gulko (USA) and Oleg Romanishin (Ukraine), all of whom scored seven points, picking up $15,400 each.

Hastings

RUSSIAN Grandmaster Mikhail Krasenkov is currently leading the Hastings Premier tournament, Britain's strongest all-play-all competition. Here is how he overwhelmed former Commonwealth champion Ian Rogers in round four:

White: Ian Rogers

Black: Mikhail Krasenkov

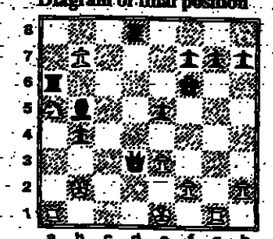
Hastings Premier, December 1993

Slav Defence

1	d4	d5
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	c6
4	Nf3	dxc4
5	e3	b5
6	a4	Bb4
7	Bd2	a5
8	axb5	Bxc3
9	Bxc3	cxb5
10	b3	Bb7
11	d5	Nf6
12	bxc4	b4
13	Bd6	Qd6
14	Qa4+	Nd7
15	Nd4	e5
16	Nb3	Ke7
17	Be2	Qd6
18	Bg4	Nb6
19	c5	Qxd5
20	cxb6	Bc6
21	Qa2	Qxg2
22	Rf1	Qxg4
23	Nxe5	Rb5
24	Qb2	Qe4
25	b7	Ra6
26	Rg1	Rd8
27	Qc1	Qd3
28	Qb2	Kf8

White resigns

Diagram of final position



a b c d e f g h

White's position is in knots at this point. He has no adequate response to the threat by Black of . . . RxaS.

The results from the latest round, played on Saturday, are as follows: Rogers-Krasenkov 0-1; Sadler-Nunn 0-1; Hebden-Barua draw; Gurevich-Hennigan 1-0; and Sherbakov-Arakhamia 0-1.

Scores after the first four rounds of the tournament are: 3.5 — Krasenkov; 3 — Nunn; 2.5 — Arakhamia; 2 — Hebden and Barua; 1.5 — Rogers, Hennigan, Sadler and Gurevich; 1 — Sherbakov.

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Boundary Commission changes reflect exodus from cities

Major is safe, but others face fight

BY A STAFF REPORTER

WITH one of the safest seats in the country, John Major is losing no sleep over the Boundary Commission's plan to take away more than 10,000 of his 92,913 voters in Huntingdon. After all, his majority in 1992 was 36,230.

Many other MPs are less fortunate. The commission wants to carve up John Smith's Monklands East constituency, leaving the Labour leader at risk from Scottish nationalists. Labour officials have appealed against the commission's original recommendations, but if they lose Mr Smith could be forced to look for a safer seat.

The Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley's St Albans seat and the education secretary John Patten, in Oxford West and Abingdon, are the only two Cabinet ministers badly affected so far.

Although the changes to Mr Patten's seat are small with a majority of only 3,539 at the last election, they will be unwelcome. The impact on Mr Lilley is difficult to assess. Although his seat is more radically redrawn, his majority is 16,404.

Not all senior politicians have been so lucky. The Kingston upon Thames and Manchester Gorton seats held by Norman Lamont and Gerald Kaufman are marked for extinction.

A batch of middle-ranking ministers is also at risk. A public enquiry starting on January 31 into planned changes to seats in Ealing, Hammersmith, Fulham, Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster could determine the fate of Sir George Young, the housing minister; Sir John Wheeler, the Northern Ireland security minister; and Nicholas Scott, minister for the disabled.

Labour MPs tend to come off more lightly, although Clare Short's Ladywood seat is threatened by the proposed changes in Birmingham.

The Liberal Democrats have not escaped the pain entirely. Although Paddy Ashdown looks safe in his Yeovil seat, Sir David Steel has been badly affected by planned changes in the Lothian Borders, and David Alton looks unlikely to hold his reshaped Mossley Hill seat in Liverpool.

Shake-up may leave many Tories sitting on timebomb seats

BY SHEILA GUNN

CHANGES to the boundaries of Parliamentary seats could have a decisive influence on the result of the next general election — and end the political careers of scores of MPs.

The Conservatives stand to gain from the creation of new seats in rural areas, but many of the changes proposed by the Boundary Commission would have the reverse effect of turning more Tory seats into marginals by taking away rural wards full of traditionally "blue" voters.

If their percentage of the vote drops, as looks likely, the Conservatives could lose a far higher proportion of seats than in previous elections because of the increase in marginals. Under the present map, the Tories will be defending 92 seats which would be lost on a swing of no more than 5 per cent. Under the redrawn map which has emerged in recent months, that figure appears likely to increase by about 30 per cent.

One Tory strategist described the changes recommended by the commission as "a timebomb" for his party. Individual MPs have been protesting to party headquarters about the impact of the changes and asking for help in challenging the commission's initial proposals at public enquiries.

Dame Angela Rumbold, a party vice-chairman, said: "There is an extraordinary expectation by MPs that it should not affect them. They clamour and jump up and down, but there is nothing much I can do about that. All I can do is present the case if we feel the commission has not dealt with the Conservative Party as fairly as the other parties."

However, the impact of the changes, with the prospect of a fall in the Tory vote, is starting to alarm senior party figures. Dame Angela estimated that, overall, the Tories stood to gain between eight and ten seats, but another strategist put the gains at around five or six if the Tories retained their share of the vote — and predicted disaster if not.

Another possibility is that Labour will win at least 12 seats in the South. The commission has tended to create "island" seats focusing on town centres and taking away rural wards which Tory MPs relied on for their majorities. Seats in Crawley, Swindon, Luton, Bedford, Watford, Slough, Plymouth and Worcester could fall to Labour.

As the commission completes the bulk of its work, a picture has emerged of an increase in MPs in the next Parliament from 651 to 658. There will be fewer seats in the big cities, more seats focused on town centres and new seats in the shire counties.

Under the initial proposals for England, there will be a loss of 16 seats in London, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, West Midlands and Lancashire. But 19 of the shire counties will gain an extra seat each and Hampshire two.

In Wales there will be an increase of two seats to 40. Although the Tories often complain of over-representation in the principality, the new seat in Dyfed looks a good bet for the Conservatives and the second in Clwyd could also fall to them. In Scotland, the commission is still completing its work, but the number of seats overall will remain at 72.

Another unpredicted result from the exercise is the threat to Tory MPs from the loss of 16 seats in the big cities; they look like losing at least four seats in south London, four in north London and one in Coventry.

The other parties are also affected. Three Labour-held seats will disappear in London, two in Greater Manchester and one in Birmingham. The Liberal Democrats could lose Liverpool's Mossley Hill.

BY A STAFF REPORTER

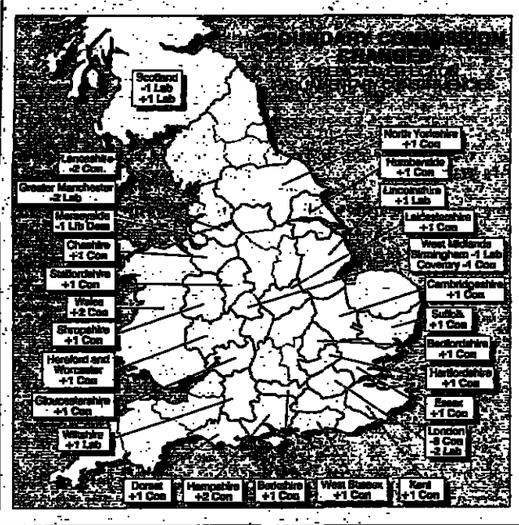
FROM the 1991 census it emerged that the parliamentary map was distorted by population shifts. People have tended to move out of the cities, leaving some urban constituencies with as few as 50,000 voters, and some rural seats with almost 100,000.

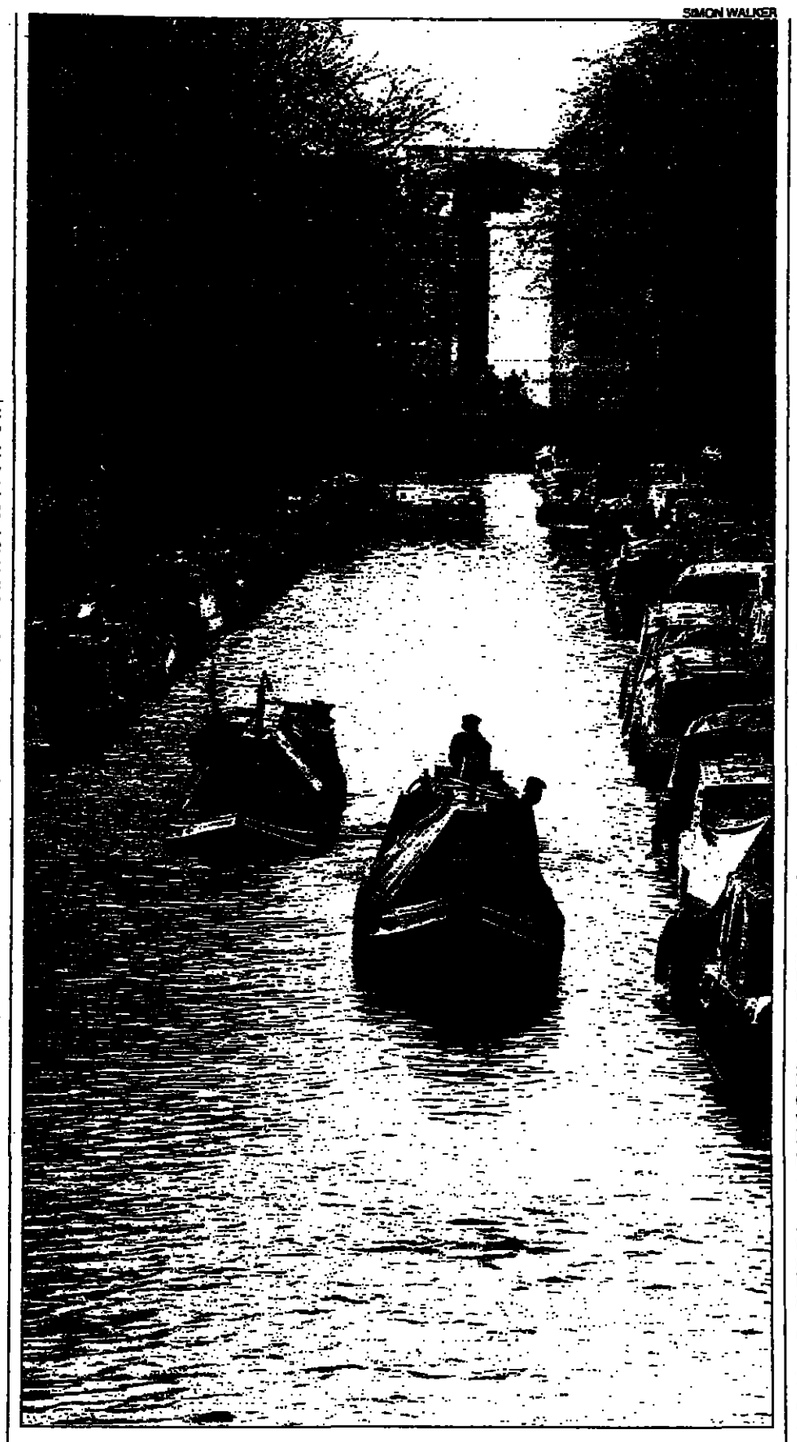
After the 1992 election, the Boundary Commission began its fourth review to even out constituencies. Under its original proposals, 20 counties between them gain 21 seats (Hampshire gains two) while London, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, West Midlands and Lancashire lose a total of 16 seats.

Residents, local bodies and political parties have a month to object. The commission then decides if a public hearing is justified, after which the original proposals are confirmed or revisions published. The assistant commissioners in charge are barristers, mostly QCs, and must be seen to be politically impartial. In Shropshire, where the first commissioner was found to have been an active Conservative, and later SDP, supporter, the proposals had to be restarted under a new commissioner.

Legislation on the new map should be introduced by the end of the year. MPs and peers can vote only on the total package and cannot meddle with individual changes.

The commission's main fear is of judicial review. The first legal challenge to the present review looks likely to come from Lambeth and Southwark in south London because the proposals cross local authority boundaries.





SIMON WALKER

Sixteen narrowboats gathered in The Pool at Little Venice, London, yesterday, after spending a fortnight collecting aid for Bosnia from points along the canal network across England. The cargo-carrying narrowboats, decorated in traditional livery, gathered more than 300 tonnes of supplies ranging from baby food to blankets. The operation, known as the Serious Boat Trip, was organised by charity The Serious Road Trip, which has been distributing aid in Bosnia for the past two years. The aid came from as far north as Manchester and Ellesmere Port. The boats were at Little Venice before sailing to Battlebridge Basin, King's Cross, where the cargo was unloaded to be taken to Bosnia by road next week.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ex-cabbie stabbed to death in flat

A man aged 51 was found stabbed to death at home after a girl friend became worried about his whereabouts. Police believe that he may have been dead for more than a week.

Frank Leys, of Brixton, southwest London, a former taxi driver, had been stabbed several times. Officers broke into the first-floor flat in a converted house on Saturday night after a phone call from the woman.

Neighbours said that Mr Leys, who was twice divorced, received daytime visits from a number of women and went out most nights, often not returning home until the early hours.

Top spin

A professor in Japan claimed that he broke a 25-year-old record, created by a Lancashire boy who set a clock-balance wheel spinning for 5 mins 26.8 secs, by spinning a specially-made top for 38 mins 59 secs.

Danger toy

Trading standard officers have given a warning that automatically-opening toy umbrellas, made in China and sold for £1.99, could injure or blind children when protection caps fall off the spokes.

New Year rape

A woman aged 22 walking home from New Year's Eve celebrations in Nottingham was raped and robbed by a black man wearing white, green and black trousers.

Unsafe-blower

An explosion and fire at an estate agent's in Tottenham, north London, is being blamed on a burglar who failed to blow open a safe.

Child dies

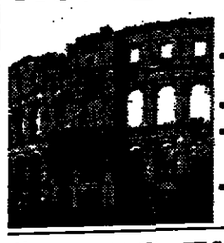
A woman was being questioned by police after the body of a young child was found in a house at Lincoln.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings premium bonds weekly draw: £100,000, bond number 35BT 192690 (winner lives in the London borough of Lambeth, value of holding £2,011); £50,000, 1UN 819791 (Dorset, £10,000); £25,000, 18KW 194268 (Coventry, £665).

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Flame-proofing found defective after cleaning

BY TONY DAWE

SAFETY experts have discovered that many flame-proof materials used in furnishings lose their fire resistance after cleaning, making millions of homes, offices and public buildings potential fire traps.

The experts blame the amount of detergents used and the high temperatures and vacuum pressures generated during deep cleaning for the loss of flame-proofing in foam furniture, bed and chair coverings, and cushions and pillows.

They have formed an association to campaign for an amendment in the law relating to furniture, introduced after ten children died in house fires six years ago this week.

Nearly 800 people die in fires in Britain every year, most in house fires, and about half (326 in 1991) in blazes involving textiles and furnishings.

Barry Day, of the recently formed Fire Prevention in Maintenance Services Association, said: "The public concern over the rapid spread of flames in textiles led to the new law and new standards.

"We want to see the law amended to ensure that those standards are maintained. People are being lulled into a false sense of security because when they buy furnishings with a fire resistant symbol they expect to be protected and stay protected."

The Government is, however, considering reducing rather than increasing the amount of fire safety legislation and leaving it to companies and individuals to ensure their buildings are safe.

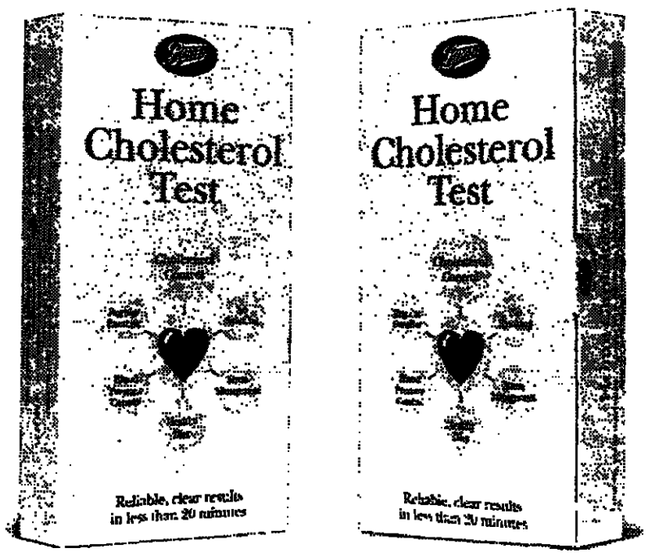
The association, which has produced a code of practice recommending re-application of treatments after cleaning, has lobbied the Home Office and will meet Dr Allan Hall, of the British Standards Institution, this month. Its campaign is supported by fire chiefs and the Fire Brigades Union. Terry Glossop, Gwent's chief fire officer, said: "There is merit in their argument. Materials should be re-treated regularly and tested to ensure they are still flame-retardant."

The association is also concerned at evidence of fraud in the flame-proofing business. "We believe that some firms will buy 100 rolls of material and send only ten for flame retardant treatment, but claim that all of it has been protected," Mark Sweeney, a director of the association, said.

He quoted the case of a fire that caused £850,000 damage to a secondary school in Stockport, Greater Manchester. "Kids started a fire in a bin beneath curtains. The curtains were supposed to be flame-retardant, but the speed with which they burned proved they were not."

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Exotic paradise a distant memory for dwindling British community in Tangier

Fading playground of Empire's elegant eccentrics

Tangier was once a magnet for the unconventional. Now the dream is almost over, writes ***Andrew Pierce***



The Hon David Herbert, potentate of the British expatriate community in Tangier, revels in name-dropping. He is listed under L for Lord in the phone book. Photographs: Stephen Markeson

One of the last great British expatriate communities, which for decades was an exotic paradise for unconventional lifestyles, is dying of old age.

Tangier, renowned as a playground for the rich and nearly famous, now trades on its fading reputation as home to an extraordinary collection of writers, aristocrats, actors, homosexuals, heiresses and freeloaders. As Britain withdrew from its Empire in the second half of the century expatriate communities sprang up around the world. But none achieved the notoriety of the "Tangerines".

Now the British population of a city whose social life revolved around the elegant drop-outs from London society has dwindled to an official figure of 198. Many believe the real number is under 100.

Some of the expats have already booked their plot in the palm-shaded churchyard at the Anglican church, St Andrew's, in the diocese of Gibraltar. Few will return to England. Their pensions would not provide the same luxurious lifestyle they still enjoy in their large houses in and around Tangier. Most maintain their link with the home counties with trips to Lipton in Gibraltar and with endless cocktail parties for the English set.

The potentate of English social life is the Honourable David Herbert, second son of the 15th Earl of Pembroke, who has conducted a life of languid expatriate elegance since he made Tangier his home in 1949.

Mr Herbert is a Tangerine legend. Sitting in his enchanting "pink palace", high in the hills, he holds forth on his favourite subject: himself. "I never regret leaving Wilton, our ancestral home near Salisbury. I came here because of friends, the warm climate, the orange groves, the cheap cost of living, the vibrancy of the souks." The historic kingdom's renowned tolerance of its visitors was another factor.

Mr Herbert has written a book on good manners, *Relations and Revelations — Advice to Jemima* (his two-year-old niece) but breaks one of its cardinal rules: name dropping. He is listed under L for Lord in the telephone book. Within minutes of walking into his home the conversation was sprayed with the names of the great and the good. Cecil (Beaton), Barbara (Hutton), Truman (Capote), Winnie (Churchill), Noël (Coward), Tallulah (Bankhead), "who fed me drugs", and William Burroughs.

Mr Herbert, tall and dapper, revels in the soubriquet "the uncrowned king of Morocco". He adds with a flourish of his heavily bejewelled hand: "But don't offend the king, he is a great friend." So were the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and Joe Orton ... "I was friends with everyone, we had such parties."

They certainly did. Barbara Hutton partied her way through her $24 million Woolworth inheritance by presiding over huge gatherings seated on a throne like a latter-day Catherine the Great. Mr Herbert says: "They were so exotic. Some would say *louche*. Parties of ill-repute. They lasted for days. We now have genteel lunches and drinks parties. We are too old for anything else."

Mr Herbert's ochre-coloured house and garden, a confusion of colour, palms, pink flowers and shrieking exotic birds, were once the talk of Tangier. But no longer. It is the wealthy Moroccans who wield the social influence.

Next year his memoirs, *Second Son*, are being reprinted by Peter Owen. Mr Herbert, who appalled British high society when he became a cabaret singer in Berlin in the 1930s, says: "If I had been the first son I would have married, had children and done the proper thing. Thank God I didn't have to make that choice."

He has chosen a spot in the churchyard, where he was warden for 40 years, and has ensured that people will always talk about him. "The inscription on my stone at Wilton will say, David Herbert, second son of the 15th Earl of Pembroke, who does *not* lie here."

Lawrence Mynott, a Tangerine for only four years, is the youngest member of the English Lotus Eaters. He is 40. Mynott, a rare bird because he is married (to Anthea, a fellow artist), is one of Mr Herbert's favourites. He is doing his portrait for the National Portrait Gallery.

By deliberately disconnecting the telephone in his art-deco flat, in the old French quarter of the city, Mr Mynott has cut himself off from the social circuit. "Most of the Brits are tottering relics," he says. "E.F. Benson's Mapp and Lucia would have felt at home on the cocktail party merry-go-round. It's very Tilling. Very bitchy."

Tangerines such as Dicky Chapman, 62, who is undressed without his monocle, have never forgiven Margaret Thatcher for shutting their grand consulate building. Mr Chapman, who arrived in the 1950s, said: "It decimated our social gatherings." No more parties on the Queen's birthday or curly cucumber sandwiches on the lawn when the Royal Navy sailed into port.

Mr Chapman, from Yorkshire, admits he is bored. A former travel agent, who helped to build the first hotel on the seafront after independence in 1959, he works as a film extra. "There are no famous personalities left now the likes of Barbara Hutton have gone. I am afraid I am rather dependent now on invitations. But we do not get so many."

Guitta's, a dilapidated restaurant in the old French quarter, has taken over as the meeting place for the British expatriates. The house speciality is lemon meringue pie. A regular is Gavin Young, 65, the award-winning journalist who circumnavigated the globe in 1982. Mr Young, who wrote *Slow Boat To China*, rents a house in Tangier every year. He denies he is a fully fledged Tangerine.



Lawrence Mynott, a newcomer to the Tangerine scene

Having covered 16 wars for *The Observer*, he has no stomach for the guerrilla warfare with his fellow Englishmen. "I would rather talk to the Moroccans, mainly drug-dealers these days. They are worse in the summer but in the winter they forget their enmities, close ranks and play canasta. The cocktail parties are dreadful." Mr Young has decided to settle in the Cotswolds instead. "Tangier is a quiet place to write but it is a dump."

Samuel Pepys, posted there as treasurer to Charles II, would agree. He described Tangier as a "flyblown Gomorrah". St Francis of Assisi, who is thought to have visited, dismissed it as a "city of madness and illusion". Mark Twain thought it was hell.

Major Harold Twentyman, 80, who is always dressed in an English-made three-piece suit, arrived when he was given three years to live, 32 years ago. He goes to Guitta's every lunchtime and most nights. "It has gone a bit downhill but there are friendly English faces. Many went after they shut the consulate.

"I couldn't go back to England now, I couldn't afford to, and the climate keeps me alive."

St Andrew's church celebrates its centenary this year. It could be one of its last birthdays. Its latest vicar — most have gone amid a welter of tittle-tattle — denounced the 12-strong congregation from the pulpit for spreading "scandalous rumours about me". The unfortunate vicar, an American, had used the Remembrance Day sermon to castigate Tangier as a "city of sin". The rumours followed shortly afterwards.

Mary Bull-Evans, the current church warden, is the antithesis of the Herbert set. A neat grey-haired woman, who dresses in tweeds and sensible shoes, she looked like a president of a branch of the Women's Institute. She was born in Tangier and has lived there all her life, most of it in a large house without running water or electricity. She was the last English person to marry in the church, and she had already reached retirement age.

Richard Timewell, an elegant 79-year-old, lives in a magnificent rambling house that is a faithful recreation of his rooms at Albany. A former vice-president of Sotheby's, his home is filled with antiques of every variety. He retired to Tangier in 1965 (too early, he says) but keeps in touch with home. The latest antique catalogues are scattered on his coffee tables. The previous night he was hosting another cocktail party.

"Of course Tangier isn't the same. Where is?" he said. "It's still a wonderful place to live. It feels like Africa but you have the comfort of knowing you can stand by the sea and see Europe. Where else could one afford to have live-in staff? And it's not as bitchy as Cheltenham."



Major Harold Twentyman, who has resisted the temptation to go native for the past 32 years. "I couldn't go back to England," he says.



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Sound of music fails to strike right note in Sarajevo



Hendricks: moving concert was televised live

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

■ Sarajevans did their best to celebrate the new year in spite of shortages of food, water and electricity, but 1994 began as 1993 ended in the Bosnian capital, with the sound of shelling

THE new year came to Sarajevo with a long series of bangs and a solidarity concert by Barbara Hendricks, the American soprano. Sarajevans only heard the bangs.

"This is very dangerous," one of Sarajevo's leading entertainment personalities told me at a New Year's Day party. "All those people around the world are going to watch television and see Barbara Hendricks singing in Sarajevo, and they are going to think they are doing something for us," he said accusingly.

Ms Hendricks gave a midnight concert on New Year's Eve in the Sarajevo television centre before a small audience, largely of United Nations soldiers and officials, with a handful of the Sarajevo elite thrown in for flavour. The moving performance was televised live on television in Sarajevo and in France. However, since the city is without electricity, most Sarajevans will have to wait weeks, months or years, before they hear a note of Ms Hendricks' performance. French viewers were more fortunate.

"But they are doing nothing," the bitter director continued. "Nothing. Who is she performing for? No one in Sarajevo even saw her. She was in the Holiday Inn with all the journalists and then went to that bunker and sang for. . . . a bunch of UN people." The "bunker" is Sarajevo's all-concrete television building, the safest structure in the city.

"Frankly, we are all exhausted and fed up with foreigners coming here . . . and wasting our energy," he added. "I have to save what little I have to survive. We've welcomed you for two years now and what has it gotten us?" But somehow, after the bitter diatribes, and despite acute shortages of food, foreigners still get invited to lunch here.

New year's lunch has always been the biggest feast of the year. Now, the Islamic holidays are beginning to rival the new year as many Sarajevans turn religious after 21 months of having their world thrown upside down. Still, as a holiday celebrated by all religions in Sarajevo, the new year has a special significance and is a time for family and close friends.

The streets were particularly quiet on New Year's Day. The shelling on the last day of 1993 had been particularly bloody and vicious, and most Sarajevans stayed at home for their celebrations. Walks in the park would have to wait for a different year.

A friend of mine, Meco, and his family invited me to celebrate the new year with them in their home. His mother, a former university professor in her fifties, warned me "not to expect too much" with a shrug and a smile.

Meco is a bespectacled 30-year-old architect who has taken to sporting a semi-permanent half-beard rather than going through the arduous chore of shaving without water, heat or electricity. He speaks good English, fluent Italian, and has a keen, logical mind. I have spent many evenings arguing politics, both Bosnian and global, by candlelight in his often frigid apartment.

At Meco's, his parents, 20-year-old sister, his aunt and uncle, and two other friends gathered for the lunch. The aunt and uncle, the husband in his sixties and wife in her early fifties, were impeccably dressed; he in a dark suit and tie with a pressed white shirt; and she with freshly washed hair and make-up. Their children are refugees who have fled the city and they had no one closer to spend the holiday with.

The younger couple, friends of Meco's, both moved to the city and their family is elsewhere. The apartment was cold, but warmer than outside thanks to a stove Meco had installed the day before.

The naked metal antique coal stove looked strangely out of place, functionally burning away in the corner with an armoire of china and crystal on one side and a subdued oil painting on the other. There was not enough wood to heat the room and the UN-donated plastic sheeting, where glass windows once were, offered little insulation.

By Sarajevo standards it was, however, truly a feast. Meco's family is well-off and his sister works as a translator for a foreign humanitarian organisation, and they can afford to offer much more than most Sarajevan families would eat on the day. Still, it was less than last New Year's Day, about what a normal meal would have been two years ago.

As Meco's mother began serving the mushroom dish she had prepared, a tank shell exploded about 250 yards away, rocking the room. The aunt jumped so much she jolted the table. There was a pause and Meco explained calmly: "It's not much to worry about, this house always shakes whenever they shell anywhere in the neighbourhood."

The aunt smiled nervously and Meco's mother looked perturbed that the war would spoil all her hard work. She began serving: mushrooms, pumpkin, potatoes, Sarajevo's ever-present rice, pasta, and a breaded meat called "ladies' thighs".

A second shell exploded just as Meco's mother finished serving the third plate. Meco's Croat friend, Branko, looked at his watch and said: "They are late. It's two o'clock and they usually shell at one. They must have been up late last night."

Nato sounds alarm over rise of Zhirinovsky and the threat to democracy in eastern Europe

Yeltsin vows to press on with reform programme

BY MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AS PRESIDENT Clinton prepares this week for his trip to Europe to attend the Nato summit, President Yeltsin is to announce a cabinet reshuffle that will see a demotion of some of the prominent advocates of economic change, but no retreat from the reforms on which the Western powers are counting.

The Nato summit, which opens in Brussels on January 10, will reflect the West's concern over securing democracy in eastern Europe and its alarm over the rise of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, eccentric leader of the ultra-right Liberal Democratic Party in Russia. Mr Yeltsin's reshuffle, promised after the new year holiday, comes as leaders of the main parties in the new Duma (parliament) meet to see whether they can reach a compromise in choosing a Speaker and whether the other parties can find grounds for co-operation with Mr Zhirinovsky.

Mr Zhirinovsky caused further consternation yesterday when a German newspaper reported that he had threatened nuclear war against Germany, the return there of 300,000 Russian troops and a demand for huge war reparations. But while appearing a dangerous bufoon abroad, Mr Zhirinovsky has been more canny in securing his power base at home.

Vladimir Shumeiko, formerly deputy chairman of the Russian parliament, said recently that the way he had behaved at the recent constitutional conference on the structure of the new parliament was in sharp contrast to his public antics. "He kept silent more often, and if he took the floor, he spoke constructively."

Welt am Sonntag quoted a confidential report by the German Embassy in Sofia on Mr Zhirinovsky's angry reaction to being refused a German visa. He threatened Germany with "the Third World War" and its "complete destruction". The German Foreign Ministry said his reaction showed that he had disqualified himself "as a discussion partner".

Mr Yeltsin cannot dismiss him so easily, however. Mr Shumeiko said that the new government would have to co-operate with all parties including the Liberal Democratic Party, as long as they respected the law. While dismissing the Liberal Democratic Party, which holds 65 of the 450 seats in the Duma, as really just a one-man band, he said the election showed that voters had a strong idea of statehood, and Mr Yeltsin should advance Russia as a state.

In his new year address, the Russian leader promised to defend the interests of Russian citizens abroad more energetically this year than in 1993. His remarks were a clear reaction to the nationalist vote. Any indication of a more assertive policy will come in the cabinet reshuffle. Yegor Gaidar, who masterminded the unpopular economic reforms, is likely to stay as Deputy Prime Minister but will be subordinate to Oleg Soskovets, an industrialist thought to favour slower change, who may be promoted as the senior Vice-Premier under Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister. Anatoli Churbais, responsible for the privatisation programme may stay in office, but Boris Fyodorov, a former banker and zealous free market Minister of Finance, could be moved to another job. He will probably be the loser in his feud with Viktor Gerashchenko, chairman of the Central Bank.

The government is due to hold its first meeting on Wednesday. The new constitution does not require a new cabinet to be in place but Mr Yeltsin will want to avoid any impression of bickering or delay.

The Duma too wants to demonstrate its readiness to begin work when it convenes on January 11, although the presence of eight different parties and 135 independent members promises a parliament more fractious than the old one. Party leaders, including Mr Zhirinovsky, met last Friday to find a Speaker acceptable to all factions and will meet again tomorrow. The new Speaker will not hold the same power of Ruslan Khasbulatov, the Speaker of the former parliament, now in jail after leading the revolt against Mr Yeltsin, but will still be important in asserting parliament's power.

Mr Yeltsin's difficulties in dealing with the new body will be increased by the election of Anatoli Lukyanov, one of the powerful former communists arrested after the failed 1991 coup, to the key role of setting up procedures for the Duma. His post as head of the temporary commission was proposed by one of the Liberal Democrats, suggesting an alliance between the far left and the far right. He still faces charges of high treason but his trial has been postponed because of ill health and he is now claiming parliamentary immunity after his re-election.

A key question his commission must resolve is where the Duma should meet. Most MPs insist on returning to the White House; now under repair but Mr Yeltsin wants a symbolic break with the past.

Last night news agencies reported that Alexander Barkashov, leader of the hard-line resistance crushed by forces loyal to President Yeltsin last October, was arrested at the weekend after authorities had learned he was in hospital with a gunshot wound.

Clinton policy shift, page 1
Leading article, page 13



President Clinton at work and play during his holiday on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, at the weekend. Mr Clinton attends the Nato summit in Brussels this week

Neo-fascist gives the West crucial clues to salvage of Central Europe

*Vladimir Zhirinovsky, for all his rhetoric, has lucidly identified the political reality behind the excitement of post-Cold War Europe, **Misha Glenny** writes*

The rhetoric of European integration had been bandied about for a decade before Mikhail Gorbachev turned this utopian project into a real possibility by sanctioning the unification of Germany and the revolutions across Eastern Europe.

Four years after the great turning point of 1989, the rhetoric can barely disguise how the dream of integration is being erased by a dramatic process of fragmentation. This has not only created a new and widening gap between Eastern and Western Europe. It has also provoked tensions between the old and the new *Länder* in Germany and within Eastern European countries, where Yugoslavia is the most extreme example.

Neither has Western Europe been spared as a united Germany has shifted the political and economic balance within the European Union. Every European country is trying to establish what its new role should be following 1989.

The electoral success of the neo-fascist Vladimir Zhirinovsky in the Russian elections suggests how dangerous this pan-European identity crisis may be. Mr Zhirinovsky's public utterances are already legendary for their seemingly senseless and wild paranoia. But focus on what he is saying and a particular obsession with Germany reveals itself slowly.

On the one hand, Mr Zhirinovsky has denounced German "economic interference" in Russia. On the other, he sends out messages affirming the great potential for co-operation between the two, invoking the rich tradition of Russo-German pacts, such as Rapallo and Ribbentrop-Molotov.

Paradoxically, this nutcase has identified quite lucidly the political reality behind the excitement of 1989 — Europe is once again confronted by its two most complex and, until now, insoluble problems, the German and Russian questions. Nowhere are people more conscious of this than in Warsaw, as turmoil in Russia or Germany has often resulted in Poland being forced to perform one of its periodic disappearing acts. Partly in order to ward off this eventuality, Poland has worked harder than the rest of Eastern Europe at transforming its economy, preferring a tough course of shock therapy — rapid privatisation and a strict policy of monetary control. As a result, Poland is hailed in the West as the model of transformation.

The Times Essay

But it has run into trouble. In September, the Poles, the most notoriously anti-communist people in eastern Europe, voted a left-wing coalition comprising reform communists and the Peasant Party back into power. Konstanty Geberl, a senior editor with the daily *Gazeta Wyborcza*, maintains that it was Poland's role as the vanguard of reform that guaranteed the return of the communists.

With labour in Eastern Europe between 20 and 100 times cheaper than in the EU, Brussels' reluctance to throw open its markets to the East is understandable. The latest unemployment figures from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development puts the average in the Union at 10.9 per cent. Johann Ekhoff, the German Secretary of State for Economics, says that in order to emerge properly from the recession, workers must accept cuts in their living standards. "Wages have got to come down, certainly in West Germany, if we are to escape the downward spiral which the integration of East Germany has provoked," he says.

The controlled panic prevailing in Bonn was underlined by the remarkable showing of the reformed communists in Brandenburg. Despite the triumphant rhetoric of the Treuhand, the holding company charged by Helmut Kohl with privatising the East German economy, mutual resentment between East and West Germans has risen steadily. In some industrial areas of the east, unemployment tops 50 per cent, provoking political instability and the occasional outbreak of neo-fascist unrest.

One or two neo-fascist groups have targeted Silesia which, before it was awarded to Poland in 1945, belonged to Germany. Two months ago, a row blew up between the ageing German minority in Silesia and the local authorities over the Germans' desire to erect memorials for soldiers of the Second World War.

If the Poles feel a passive nervousness in the back of their minds about Germany, they express active fear about tensions between their eastern neighbour Ukraine and Russia. The Poles, like most other non-Russians in Eastern Europe, are convinced that the long-term strategy of the Russian military is to re-establish its strategic control over the "near abroad" as it has already done in the Caucasus.

Ukraine is especially vulnerable because of the difficulty it is having establishing its identity, riven as it is by the Catholic, nationalist consciousness of western Ukraine and the "Sovietised" consciousness of eastern Ukraine, where a large, slumbering Russian minority lives.

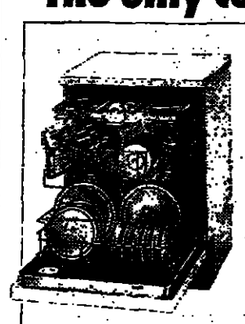
This has been compounded by the determination of President Kravchuk's Party of Power, as the ruling unreconstructed communist elite is sinisterly known, to prevent any market reforms.

Ukraine is moving slowly but surely towards economic collapse. The 90 per cent rate of hyperinflation gathers pace while chronic energy shortages are affecting civilian and industrial life alike. Instead of committing itself to reform, the parliament demands cash from the West before it will adhere to the provisions of the Start I strategic arms accord and hand over its nuclear warheads for destruction.

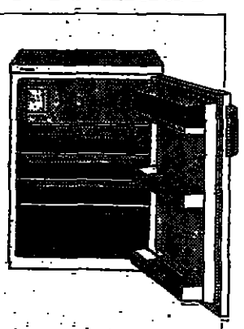
If any good is to emerge from Mr Zhirinovsky's spectacular success, it will be by focusing on a range of security and economic issues not just in Russia but in *Zwischeneuropa* (Europe in between), as the Germans used to refer to the movable blob of Central Europe lying between themselves and Russia. The initiative of Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister, which aims to create institutions to co-ordinate the EU's response to political problems in Eastern Europe suggests that Western Europe is waking up to those possibilities. Sitting back and watching *Zwischeneuropa* fragment would be folly indeed.

Leading article, page 13

The only compromise we've made



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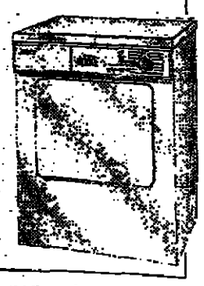
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Mexico sends in tanks to crush peasant rebellion

BY DAVID ADAMS, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

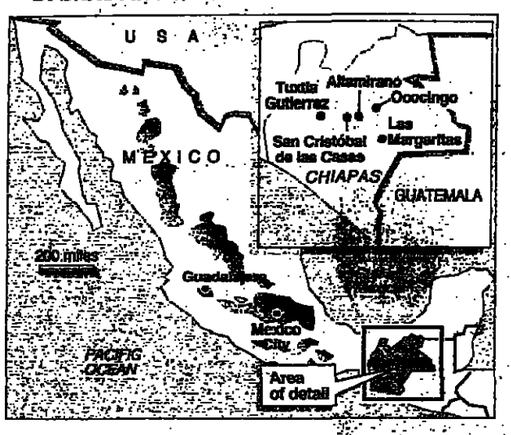
AS MEXICAN troops and tanks moved into the southern state of Chiapas to put down a peasant rebellion, hundreds of Indian guerrillas began to withdraw from towns they seized in surprise attacks, leaving behind at least six dead, including several policemen, and 18 injured.

They left as mysteriously as they had arrived, moving under the cover of darkness and returning to the remote hillsides from where they had emerged 24 hours earlier on Saturday, catching residents and tourists unaware as they celebrated New Year's Day.

Although the rebel retreat appeared to signify an end to violence, the Chiapas state government said that negotiations had failed to settle the uprising. The local administration said that the guerrillas appeared to have "a powerful arsenal of weapons", and accused left-wing Catholic priests of backing the rebellion.

The attacks were the most serious outbreak of insurrection in a region with a history of violent land disputes and political tension. The previously unknown Zapatista National Liberation Army briefly held five towns, including San Cristóbal de las Casas, a popular tourist centre with about 80,000 residents. They also occupied government buildings in three towns to the south, Ococingo, Altamirano and Las Margaritas.

January 1 was meant to mark the coming into effect of the North American Free Trade Agreement, billed as a crucial step in the modernisation of Mexico. But national attention focused on the neglected southern border region with Guatemala, home to a large native Indian population of Mayan descent. Instead of looking forward to a new era of free trade and prosperity the guerrilla army, estimated at between 200 and 600 men, is seeking to revive grievances with roots in the Mexican wars of 1910-20.



The group takes its name from Emiliano Zapata, the revolutionary leader who defended the rights of poor peasants to land seized from wealthy landowners. In a statement, which the guerrilla army described as a "declaration of war" on the Mexican state, they cited centuries of exploitation and persecution by foreign settlers.

The native population are former forest dwellers who have lost their land to logging companies, which have torn down the forests of Chiapas, turning large areas into farmland that has been sold to wealthy settlers from northern Mexico. The guerrillas say they want that land back.

The Mexican government said it recognised that the Indians had legitimate social needs. "What is not acceptable is that just social demands, which we are willing to respond to, be used as a pretext to break the law and violate the human rights of local citizens."



Alina María Salgado Fernández, left, the 16-year-old granddaughter of President Castro of Cuba, telling reporters in Columbus, Georgia, that her first task now was to learn English. A dance student, she flew from Havana on New Year's Eve to join her mother, Alina Fernández Revuelta, right, who defected from Cuba ten days before. Señora Fernández, daughter of Dr Castro and actress Nati Revuelta, with whom the Cuban leader had a relationship in the 1950s, was estranged from him. American officials issued the girl a visa after Havana gave her a passport.

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Computer whiz buys hack-free wedding day

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

Bill Gates, America's richest bachelor, married his longtime girlfriend in an outdoor sunset ceremony on New Year's Day on an idyllic Hawaiian Island after paying a handsome sum to keep out the press.

The bespectacled Harvard dropout, whose talent for writing computer operating systems made him America's youngest billionaire, bought up all the available beds at the exclusive 250-room Manele Bay Hotel on Hawaii's famed "private island" of Lanai and told reporters they were not welcome.

Known for his shyness, the chairman of the Microsoft Corporation that created Windows and MS-DOS even rented all the helicopters within flying range of the remote former pineapple plantation to prevent intrusions by airborne paparazzi.

A small army of security men patrolled the grounds, and two journalists who did manage to get onto the island were promptly expelled and flown home to Honolulu.

Mr Gates' auburn-haired bride was Melinda French, a Microsoft marketing manager and marathon runner described by one colleague as "attractive, articulate and brainy", who met her workaholic boss at the office five years ago. The ultimate yuppie couple had a low-key romance, and were seldom seen in public except in the crowd at Seattle Supersonics basketball games.

With his fortune valued at more than $6 billion (£4 billion), Mr Gates, 38, finally announced his engagement to Ms French, 29, last March. The two worked hard to keep their wedding confidential, swearing their guests to secrecy and even circulating a false date of Valentine's Day to put the press off the scent.

A newspaper in Mr Gates' native Seattle complied with his family's request to keep the location secret, but word leaked out anyway. The ceremony took place on a spit of land overlooking the azure Pacific at the 17th tee of the island's new Challenger golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus.

Among the eclectic list of 130 guests were many "Microsoft millionaires" who made their fortune with Mr Gates, as well as the investor Warren Buffett, the only American rated richer than Mr Gates by *Forbes* magazine.

Rock musician Alice Cooper was also invited, along with the country music star Willie Nelson, and both were expected to perform before the guests ferried offshore for a reception aboard the 154ft yacht *Charade* of Paul Allen, the co-founder of Microsoft.

The island of Lanai, now known as a playground of the super-rich, was once the world's largest pineapple plantation, and is almost entirely owned by the Dole fruit company.

According to a local official, Mr Gates and Ms French obtained their marriage licence from the register office last Tuesday, spending about half an hour filling out forms and paying a $16 fee. "They were pretty cool and didn't say much," Marian Honda, the official who issued the licence, told the *Seattle Times*. "I congratulated him afterwards and he just looked at me."



Bill Gates, the Microsoft chairman, attending a Seattle basketball game with Melinda French



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Balladur accused of appeasing Tehran over terror suspects

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

EDOUARD Balladur, the French Prime Minister, is being criticised across the political spectrum for caving in to Iranian threats with a decision to deport to Tehran two suspected assassins wanted for trial in Switzerland.

By announcing the move on the eve of the new year festivities, the government hoped to minimise criticism, but anger built up at the weekend over what appears to be a new act of French appeasement towards the Islamic regime. "In the eyes of the world, France is giving the shameful impression of lying down under the threats of a terrorist state," said *Le Journal du Dimanche*, the main Sunday newspaper.

The Socialist Party, which made its own concessions to Tehran over terrorism while in government, called the deportations incomprehensible, and supporters of the popular M Balladur voiced concern over an act which they said contradicted the Gaullist government's crackdown against Muslim and other extremists. That campaign, led by Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, has included the widescale detention and deportation of Algerian and Kurdish militants.

Mohsen Sharif Esfahani and Ahmed Taheri, said to be senior Iranian intelligence officers, were flown home secretly last week despite a French court ruling last February in favour of their extradition to Switzerland, where they are wanted for the 1990 murder of Kazem Rajavi, the brother of the head of the main Iranian opposition group. The government said that the decision "involves national interest", and refused further comment. Asked to explain yesterday, Alain Lamassoure, the European Affairs Minister, said merely: "At times, brevity is best." Switzerland took the unusual step of a public protest.

There was a consensus among intelligence experts and commentators that Paris had decided to rid itself of an embarrassment after a threat from Tehran to strike at French interests. In the 1980s, France held Iran responsible for a bloody bombing campaign in Paris and Lebanon, hijackings, and seizure of French hostages in Beirut. Peace was won with French political and economic concessions and a pardon in 1990 for an alleged Iranian agent who tried to kill Shapour Bakhtiar, the former Iranian Prime Minister, in France. After Bakhtiar was murdered in 1991, two suspected Iranian agents were arrested in Switzerland and extradicted to France, where they are due to stand trial this year.

In its alleged campaign of assassination of opposition figures in Europe, the Tehran authorities have made a practice of fighting for the freedom of their agents when arrested. The latest Iranian warning came in the form of grenade attacks on the French embassy and Air France office in Tehran last November.

Anger flowed over the weekend from the French victims of the 1986 bombing campaign and from the Mujahidin Khalq, the Iranian opposition group, which said: "The more concessions the West makes to Tehran, the more terrorist blackmail they will exercise."



The view of Pancho in *Le Monde* is that the author of *The Satanic Verses* is fortunate not to live in Paris

Hurd goes to Middle East as Israel spurns PLO talks

Arafat pressed to compromise

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

DOUGLAS Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, can expect a friendly reception from Arabs and Israelis when he embarks on a tour of the Middle East today, three years after one of the most humiliating overseas missions of his career.

The last time the Foreign Secretary arrived in Jerusalem, in October 1990, he was given a hostile reception by the then right-wing Likud government of Yitzhak Shamir. His visit was then boycotted by Palestinian figures in the occupied territories, after he was quoted as saying he did not recognise the PLO as the representative of the Palestinians and was against the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Mr Hurd, who leaves for Beirut today and arrives in Jerusalem tomorrow, is likely to be warmly greeted on this occasion by Israeli and Palestinian leaders who will ask for British assistance in helping to promote the Middle East peace accord. That accord, however, appeared a long way from conclusion yesterday when Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, ruled out a resumption of negotiations with the PLO, unless the organisation respected a compromise drafted in Cairo last week. "You cannot trust verbal agreements with them [the PLO]. From now on we shall insist that all agreements be in writing," Mr Rabin was quoted by Israel Radio as telling his ministers at their weekly meeting. "Israel is in no hurry. Let them sweat a bit now."

The Israeli leadership was angered after Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, claimed to have reached a breakthrough last week with Abu Mazen, a PLO official, only to have Yassir Arafat, the organisation's chairman, subsequently quash the compromise. The accord has been delayed because of disagreements over who will control borders, the size of the Palestinian autonomous region around Jericho, and security for Jewish settlers.

Nevertheless, Mr Arafat, in a message to his supporters in Jericho marking the anniversary of the founding of his Fatah group on Saturday, showed no signs of giving in to pressure. "We will not be a part of reorganising the occupation," he said. "Withdrawal means withdrawal and nothing else."

However, Israel has calculated that it can play the game of diplomatic brinkmanship longer than Mr Arafat, and yesterday leaked details of secret contacts with Syria as a way of warning the PLO that an Arab-Israeli peace was possible without the Palestinians. Israeli academics disclosed that they had agreed a document with their Syrian counterparts after a series of secret meetings in Oslo. The move heightened expectations of a breakthrough between Israeli and Syrian negotiators, who are due to resume talks after President Clinton and President Assad of Syria meet in Geneva this month.

The PLO's concerns that Syria might be tempted to cut a seperate deal with Israel were compounded by worsening relations between Mr Arafat and King Husain of Jordan, who at the weekend gave the PLO leader a "last chance" to agree on future Palestinian-Jordanian relations. In what was regarded as the strongest public criticism of Mr Arafat for several years by King Husain, the Hashemite monarch questioned the PLO leader's "credibility" and condemned his "whirlwind of talk that does not produce results".

In addition to the international pressure on Mr Arafat, the veteran Palestinian leader also faces growing problems within his own organisation as prominent figures renew demands for reform and young activists return to violence against Israelis. Yesterday, Haidar Abdul Shafi, the most prominent Palestinian in the Gaza Strip, left for Tunis to demand democratic reforms, a veiled criticism of Mr Arafat's autocratic leadership style.



A boy draped in an Israeli flag stopping Palestinians from driving to Jericho. He was with Israeli settlers who set up roadblocks to protest against the peace accord

Pakistan and India try to ease tensions

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA and Pakistan began the difficult search yesterday for ways of reducing tensions over Kashmir and ending their almost meaningless nine-year war in the Siachen glacier, the world's highest and most inaccessible battleground.

After a break of 15 months in which relations have grown increasingly hostile, the two nuclear powers began talks in Islamabad headed by J N Dixit, chief civil servant at the Indian foreign ministry, and Shahryar Khan, his Pakistani counterpart.

For the first time India agreed to a separate agenda item on Kashmir, probably as a result of pressure from the United States, which has issued a warning that the Indo-Pakistan region is the world's most likely nuclear battleground. Islamabad had hinted that it might abandon the talks if Kashmir was not included.

India's concession does not presage any policy movements by Delhi even though Pakistan claims that it amounts to a tacit admission for the first time that Kashmir is a disputed territory. India dismisses this as nonsense; it says it will continue to refuse to discuss the status of Kashmir.

Neither side is likely to make any significant movement on the nuclear question. Although Pakistan's nuclear programme is said to be frozen, Islamabad says there is no question of unilaterally rolling it back in spite of Washington's promise of resumed aid, which was cut off three years ago over the nuclear issue. India, too, refuses to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

The only real hope of progress is over the Siachen glacier. The border drawn up by Britain at the time of the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947 stopped short of the region, leaving it without ownership. At the time, neither side showed much interest in it.

Both India and Pakistan would like to withdraw, since neither can hope to overrun the other in such hostile territory, where soldiers have to stop every few yards to catch their breath. More men die from the terrain and weather than from fighting.

☐ **Border talks:** India and China will start talks next month on reducing troop numbers along disputed areas of their border, the Press Trust of India reported. An agreement to reduce the number of soldiers was reached by P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian Prime Minister, during his visit to Peking last September. *(Reuter)*

Kabul factional battles threaten Rabbani rule

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AFGHAN officials said more than 70 people were reported dead and about 700 injured in Kabul as factional battles raged for a second day. But President Rabbani's spokesmen said the figures were a conservative estimate of the casualties in the fighting that erupted between his forces and those led by General Abdul Rashid Dostam, the former communist warlord, on New Year's Day.

The final toll was likely to be much higher because the intensity of rocket and artillery fire was making it difficult for families to take their dead and seriously injured to hospitals.

President Rabbani's troops claimed to have killed 200 soldiers loyal to General Dostam, who joined forces on Saturday with his former enemy, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the Prime Minister and leader of the Hezb-i-Islami party. Afghan sources in Peshawar, Pakistan, said Mr Rabbani was facing a "serious challenge" to his rule, but appeared to be surviving the apparent coup attempt. A Hezb-i-Islami spokesman said that all groups opposed to Mr Rabbani were fighting him.

Plumes of smoke spiralled above Kabul as thousands of rockets, shells and mortars rained down, many missing their military targets and hitting residential areas. The erratic electricity supply was cut off, and Afghanistan radio stopped broadcasting.

At least six Islamic groups hold parts of Kabul, and most or all were involved in the violence. Mr Rabbani's forces appeared to be clinging to the most crucial sites.

The President appealed to other parties in the coalition Islamic government to join forces with him. "This is a new phase of the *jihad* (holy war) that cannot be differentited from the fighting of the previous 14 years," he said, referring to the civil war against the former Soviet-installed communist government.

Los Angeles floats anti-smog market

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, the second dirtiest metropolis in the Western hemisphere after Mexico City, is creating a free market in pollution in an effort to tackle its notorious smog.

In a scheme being studied closely by many of the world's pollution black spots, 400 of the city's biggest producers of airborne compounds of nitrogen and sulphur (known collectively as Nox and Sox) received emissions quotas at the weekend from the California state government agency which is responsible for air quality. The quotas are divided into "credits" that the companies can either use themselves or trade on the open market.

In theory, poisonous sulphur dioxide credits could soon be traded against equity on the Pacific Stock Exchange. In practice, the participants in Reclaim (Regional Clean Air Incentives Market) are likely to tread cautiously at first. No one knows how the market will work, if at all. The Pacific Stock Exchange has been hired by Southern California's Air Quality Management District as a consultant, but has no plans yet to act as market-maker for the polluters.

The management district, meanwhile, is anxious not to kill the new-born market by over-regulating it. The agency is providing an electronic bulletin board for firms with quotas, then leaving them to buy, sell, and swap credits without intermediaries.

The magic of the market is not expected to bring down net emissions by itself. Ceilings and deadlines for curbing pollution are set for the whole of America by federal and state governments. Companies that are liable to exceed their limits will be able to buy pollution credits to keep themselves below their ceiling.



The way we were: Barbra Streisand in her first paid concert for 22 years, a New Year's Eve gala in Las Vegas in front of 15,000 fans. Streisand, who has concentrated on acting and directing recently, last performed in concert in 1971 at the Nevada resort. Her stated fear of the stage had limited her appearances to benefit shows and the inaugural celebration for President Clinton. *(AFP)*

Search for crews as ships sink

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A SEARCH continued yesterday for the 36 Greek and Filipino crew members of a freighter that apparently sank in a North Atlantic storm, the Canadian Coast Guard said.

The Liberian-registered iron-ore carrier, *Marika 7*, had sent out a distress signal, officials said. The ship carried several lifeboats and there was still a chance that survivors could be found.

A Cyprus-registered freighter sank off the coast of Japan yesterday and rescue ships were still searching for 17 of its 29 crew, a maritime official said. The *Arctic Reefer* sank about 310 miles south of Shikoku, an island southwest of Kobe and Osaka, western Japan, and a dozen crew had been rescued so far, the official said. Of the 12 saved, six were Filipinos, four Greek, and one Burmese. The only woman was Polish.

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Why Mrs Burt Reynolds is going for broke

FROM REUTER IN JUPITER, FLORIDA



Anderson: claims she will run out of funds next month

THE actress Loni Anderson claims she is nearly broke and needs temporary alimony from her estranged husband, Burt Reynolds, to maintain her affluent lifestyle, according to court documents. Lawyers are scheduled to appear in state court today for the first in a series of hearings in the high-profile divorce case.

The couple own a ranch in southern Florida and made frequent appearances on behalf of local charities until they filed for divorce last June. Anderson, 47, claims she entered the marriage in 1988 with $1 million (£660,000) in cash. She earned about $1.7 million during the marriage, but spent all the money on marital living expenses and child care for the couple's adopted son, Quinton, aged five.

One of Reynolds' lawyers disputed the portrayal of Anderson as being on the verge of homelessness. "This is just not a situation where she is destitute and requires payment," Noel Bobko said. "She is gainfully employed and doing very well." The documents did not specify how much money Anderson is seeking.

"During the marriage, the parties enjoyed a prosperous lifestyle, with homes in Florida, North Carolina and California," Anderson's attorneys said in documents filed in Martin County Court, where the couple's case is pending.

In addition to alimony Anderson is asking that Reynolds pay the fees of her lawyer and experts needed to prepare for the divorce trial, including accountants, real estate appraisers and a bankruptcy attorney. A California judge ordered Reynolds, 57, to pay temporary child support after Reynolds, star of the television show *Evening Shade*, filed for divorce in Florida.

Even with that support, court records claim that Anderson will be "totally without funds" next month when her contract with the ABC-TV show *Nurses* ends.

The house that was just so





Kipling in his study at Naulakha (pictured right 100 years ago), where he wrote *Just So Stories* and the *Jungle Books*. The idyllic period ended in acrimonious argument with his brother-in-law

Ian Brodie on Kipling's American paradise that was lost within three years

"ONCE upon a time there was a boy and a girl and they grew up and they married and they went to America and they built a house called Naulakha at Brattleboro. The girl was your mother and the boy was your father and these are some of the pictures of you and the house and the horses and the gardens where you lived at first."

Rudyard Kipling wrote these words to his infant daughters on the opening page of a family album devoted to their time in Vermont a century ago. Naulakha, the first house he owned, began as a place of great happiness and prolific creativity. His writings here included the *Jungle Books*, the timeless stories of Mowgli and the animals who befriended him.

Kipling's paradise lasted barely three years. Beatty Balestier, his drunkard brother-in-law, became an increasing menace and eventually threatened Kipling's life. Kipling soon departed for England, never to return. Naulakha was eventually sold to family friends, but stood empty and shuttered from the early 1940s, a mouldering curiosity on a wooded hillside. As the house deteriorated, so too did Kipling's reputation.

Now Naulakha has been rescued. The pine floors gleam again. Kipling's oak swivel chair has been restored, along with much of his other furniture. Indian hangings once more adorn the walls. The dining table, with seating for ten, is ready for dinner guests. Outside, the well is flowing and the garden has been reclaimed from a tangle of weeds and overgrown vines.

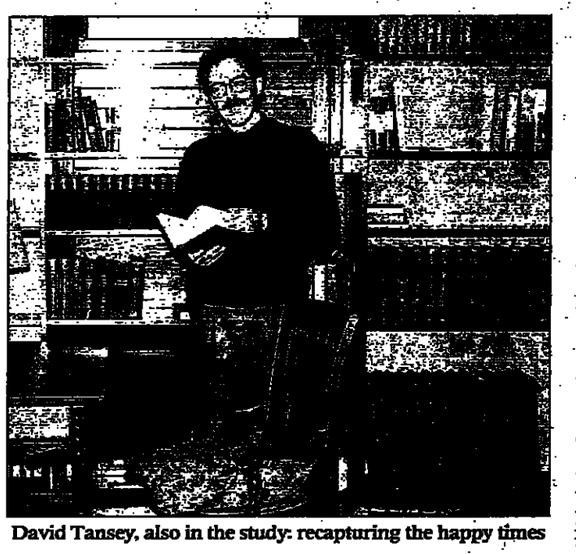
This transformation has been achieved by the Landmark Trust, the British charity that saves historically significant buildings from neglect and abuse. Naulakha is the trust's first American project and, like most of its properties, can be rented by the week, in this case for £1,000. The first to savour the Kipling spirit are eight visitors from Britain who booked the house for a Christmas holiday.

Naulakha's renaissance was the inspiration of David Tansey, an American who has overseen the mission with painstaking attention to detail. He lives in the area but had worked for the Landmark Trust in Britain. The house and 29 acres were bought 18 months ago for $320,000 by the trust, which has since spent close to twice that much to revive Kipling's Sleeping Beauty castle.

Mr Tansey's aim was to recapture the happy times before Naulakha assumed its gloomy reputation. He explained: "This was a fun house. Kipling worked hard here, but he was also playful." Kipling invented snow golf, painting golf balls red and whacking them into tin cans stuck in the snow. Arthur Conan Doyle, who visited in November 1893, brought his host a pair of skis, the first seen in Vermont. Kipling learnt to ride a bike and whizzed around the dusty lanes in summer, his feet on the handlebars, coat tails flying. Best of all for Kipling, he spent hours on end with his beloved daughter Josephine, spinning her the tales that became the *Just So Stories*.

To rural New Englanders, Kipling was an eccentric in their midst. A local paper reported: "Neighbours say he is strange, never carries money, wears shabby clothes, drives shaggy horses, is always saying 'Begad' and plays with the baby."

Kipling's Vermont connection began with his close friendship



David Tansey, also in the study: recapturing the happy times

with Wolcott Balestier, an American publisher in London with whom he wrote an unsuccessful novel centred on an Indian jewel beyond price, the Naulakha. Soon after Wolcott's death from typhoid, Kipling married his friend's sister Caroline. She took him home to the family estate outside Brattleboro, then as now a small mill town. Enchanted by the beauty and solitude of the landscape, Kipling made the fateful decision to stay and to build Naulakha.

He designed the house to resemble a riverboat "with the propellor — that is, the material provision of the furnace and kitchen — at the stern and my study at the bow". During the mornings, while Kipling wrote in the study, the protective Mrs Kipling worked on business affairs in the ante-room, barring all access to him. After work, the study was thrown open to callers for hearty gatherings at which Kipling's manner was loquacious and rollicking. Today's visitors are likely to be drawn to the study, with its open fireplace and comfortable armchairs, as the perfect setting for a late-night snifter or two.

Upstairs there are four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Kipling's snooker table is in the attic, his golf clubs are down the hall. Guests can sleep in Rudd and Carrie's twin brass bedsteads, use his lavatory and soak in his original porcelain cast-iron bath where Kipling joyfully reflected on the pleasures of owning a home, as expressed in a letter to a friend: "I luxuriously par-boiled myself in my own tub, beholden to no man."

Authentic restoration of the house and its contents was made possible by discovery of the blueprints and a wealth of original interior photos. John Evetts, furnishings manager for the Landmark Trust, said: "Normally we don't have all these pictures to work from, but here we know exactly how the rooms were laid out so that when you see the Kiplings' cat hiding under the dining room table, there's a temptation to put a stuffed moggy there."

Naulakha's exterior is of wooden tiles, known as shingles, stained dark green on instructions from Kipling, who wanted the house to blend in with the pines on either side. The view remains as unspoilt and spectacular as in Kipling's day, encompassing valleys and mountains to the slimmest tip of Mount Monadock, which he described as a "giant thumbnail pointing toward heaven".

Beatty Balestier thought of himself as a gentleman farmer, but he was a waistrel. At first Kipling was attracted by Beatty's convivial character, but soon his brother-in-law was appropriating the money entrusted to him to pay the contractors working on Naulakha. Beatty even sneaked into the house to steal the baby's malted milk. Caroline was so infuriated by her brother's behaviour that she wanted to bankrupt him.

The Kiplings' second daughter Elsie was born in February 1896 but three months later a bizarre and ugly incident ended the Naulakha idyll. In a confrontation on the road between their properties, Beatty vowed to blow Kipling's brains out unless he withdrew "those God-damned lies you've been telling about me". Thoroughly frightened, the Kiplings asked the sheriff to arrest Beatty for assault. It was a fatal mistake. The resulting court case drew reporters from throughout the US and became a media carnival that left Kipling humiliated, his longed-for privacy destroyed and his ability to write shattered. By the time the [illegible] court hearings [illegible] he had left America for [illegible].

In 1899, the family again sailed for New York, where Josephine died and Kipling came close to death from pneumonia. Mr Tansey speculates that Kipling might have returned eventually to Naulakha, but the loss of Josephine made the prospect too painful for a time.

"People think of Kipling as an imperialist and a warmonger," Mr Tansey said, "but when he lived here he wrote his best known children's stories and had a wonderful time. That's the atmosphere we've tried to recreate."

Mr. Tansey also convinced Washington that the British should not hold a monopoly on preserving an American building. Thanks to his prodding, the federal government last month belatedly recognised Naulakha as a US national historic landmark.

Information on renting Naulakha is available from the Landmark Trust, Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3SW (tel: 0628 825925 fax: 0628 825417).

Chalet girls on the slide

Boys are taking over at cheap ski resorts

ONE of the mainstays of the Sloane Ranger's social season is on the slippery slopes: chalet girls are on the skids. According to the biggest tour operators, the traditional fallback finishing school for the sort of girl who found GCSEs "vulgar" may no longer be such a free and easy option.

Worst of all, the system is not so much atrophying as changing: the newcomer on the market is the chalet man, otherwise known as "banoffee boy", a nickname derived from the new breed's favourite instant dessert, a gooey hybrid of toffee, cake and banana split. Organised young men with a few of the right recipes and, more often than not, an impressive physique, are beginning to supplant the well-groomed finishing girlies who used a season in the Alps to supplement their tuitions and learn how to "wedel" their way down a black run in a way that made future husbands weak at the knees.

But is the alleged demise of the wickedly nicknamed "Fergie finishers" really a matter for regret? There was often a thinly veneered social problem with the old breed: 18 to 30 holidays packaged 12 to a chalet did not always attract the strata that the average pretty plutocrat was accustomed to. More often than not, Ursula Upper-Crust could find herself abandoned for a week or so with Nick Naff and the kids from the comp.

At the most extreme, it was not unknown for a chalet girl of 18 to settle in for the season complete with fox furs and Gucci boots only to find herself slaving over the stove for a men-only gaggle of Day-Glo Daves who all but slept in their ski-wear. Under the circumstances it remains remarkable that the standard "Dave's dare" of "snogging the chalet girl" did not result in more date-rape allegations. But if she failed to clear hell, all too quickly the Sloane could find herself a stranger.

THE TOUR companies insist that their emphasis is, and ever, on quality and service and that men can do the job as well as women. Superficially, similar criteria seem to apply: the average chalet boy, as an Alpine athletic specimen, is unlikely to elicit the sighs of older female guests as the chalet girl was to excite the interest of middle-aged husbands. According to the holiday companies, there is no secret move to oust the traditional female element, just an "awareness of the advantages of equal opportunities. The emphasis is on appropriate [illegible] in keeping the chalet [illegible]."

[illegible] began a way of making up the catering deficit in old-style Alpine resorts. But the best that might be said for it was that it made up in often bitter experience for a thousand hours of skipped domestic science. At its worst, however, it became little more than an inoculation against the indigenous culture: never mind the strudel and knoedel, the chalet girl stood for spag bol by the bucketful followed by apple crumble *à la* St Trinian's.

But in the end, of course, chalet holidays have always been a quick fix for the young, a cheap and cheerful introduction to skiing, particularly in the otherwise sterile resorts of the French Alps. There are, of course, those who swear by the chalet holiday as an ideal way to get to know new people, and the chalet girl system as the last word in friendly service. I have also heard the experience described by one veteran as "being forced to spend a week in a bad boarding house with a busload of football supporters and a landlady who can't cook". But what will poor Caroline do now?

PETER MILLAR

If we agreed that there was far more to life than giving birth, women without children could stop feeling worthless or thwarted

That's enough mother worship

The year ended typically, in yet another flurry of assorted mothers. Too-old mothers and wrong-race mothers were all we needed to round off a yearful of rows about single mothers, "home-alone" mothers, royal ones, feckless ones, and Shula Archer's interminable IVF treatment. Some of us felt a certain relief on reading that a gang of American lawyers want Kim Basinger banned from having a baby in case it reduces her capacity to pay debts. That's one fewer to read about, then.

I ought not to be so jaundiced because I am one of the battalion myself: I even wrote a book about it once (all right, twice). But I said then, and I say now, that we really must get a grip on ourselves. It would alleviate a lot of misery and mad behaviour if more of us announced loudly that being a mother is not *everything*. And that even for a mother, maternity is not the most important factor in life; except for a very few years.

Human life in the developed world is longer and more varied than it has ever been. Each of us can know more, see more, love longer, create more and do more good than at any time in human history. Active motherhood is a rewarding, absorbing and enriching phase, but still only a phase: like founding a company or heading a school or seeing a big research project through. It does, of course, start a lifelong relationship: but so does having a brother or a sister or a lover or a true best friend. It brings a stake in the next generation: but so does having a beloved godchild, pupil or protégé. Giving birth makes you value life: but so can other experiences. Mothers who claim a monopoly on human compassion are monsters of arrogance, and should be told so.

As for the vaunted maternal urge, currently driving old ladies to barmy adventures with other people's eggs, it is indeed strong: but so are vocational, religious and artistic drives, adventurous longings and the universal yearning for love. We really must stop putting biological motherhood into a special category of glory and privilege: it is only one glittering thread in the tapestry. Sure, a childless woman misses much: but



LIBBY PURVES

nobody can have everything. Mothers miss a lot too. They spend the prime of their lives tired, tied, and preoccupied.

Paradoxically, if we put motherhood into its place the lot of mothers might improve. Society could accept that we are not an alien species of magical Madonnas, but citizens who need a bit of help with the job of getting the next generation on the road. We are like you: it just happens that we are carrying baby-buggies right now, instead of briefcases or pickaxes or flaming crosses.

And above all, women without children could relax and work on their achievements, relationships, and contribution to the coming generation's world. They could stop feeling worthless and thwarted and desperate enough to become willing patsies for experimenting clinicians. Adoption authorities could make less of a religion out of mimicking biological motherhood, and admit that plenty of couples over 40 would make splendid parents; and that trans-racial adoption can work perfectly well. That would save a lot of older women being driven to the IVF clinics as the only resort.

Not that there is anything wrong with IVF, when it works: but the failure rate is high, and the physical and emotional toll is an atrocious waste of useful years. Hormone treatment and egg donation are even crueller. Because of our sentimental soulfulness about biological motherhood, these medical trickeries are presented to women as "choices": in fact, they are a new kind of slavery. Once, childless or single women could say "Well, it wasn't to be" and get on with being achievers, friends, and favourite aunts. Now they are plied with the addresses of clinics and start to think that this is yet another area of life in which they should be taking assertive control.

It isn't. I have two children, but at 32, almost "too old" to adopt, and too much of a working woman to be approved by the authorities anyway, I had a year of vain trying. It was long enough to decide exactly how far down the medical garden-path to go. Not far, I reckoned. I well remember the desolate sense of unfairness and the dislike of other women's bumps. But life is there to be lived as it comes: not wasted in making yourself ill and angry. As John Cleese said in *Clockwise*, "It's not the despair — I can stand the despair. It's the *hope*."

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If underwear can become outerwear, why shouldn't pyjamas be allowed downstairs for dinner?



Rise and shine



Above: Beige velvet dressing gown, £225, Margaret Howell, 24 Brook Street, London W1. Charcoal grey rib knit sweater, £25.99, Kookai, 123 Kensington High St, London W8 and branches

Top: Grey cashmere pyjamas, £943, by TSE from Harvey Nichols, SW1 (enquiries 071-794 3203). Charcoal grey rib knit sweater, £55, by Fenn Wright Manson from Space NK, Thomas Neals, 41 Earlham St, London WC2. Silver flip-flops, £110, to order from Jimmy Choo (071-249 2082)



Above: Black silk pyjamas with see-through sleeves, £179, Saxon, Fenwicks, London W1. Beige rib knit top, £19, Benetton. Beige flip-flops, £110, Jimmy Choo

Right: Oyster silk pyjamas with black piping, £180, Derek Rose for Ladies, from Harrods, Knightsbridge, London SW1; Fenwicks, 63 New Bond St, London W1; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge; Selfridges, Oxford St, London W1; branches of Hoopers. Beige rib knit top, £19, Benetton. Navy suede flip-flops, £35.99, Sabago from Russell & Bromley, 24/25 New Bond St, London W1 and branches



Photographs: RICHARD LOHR. Make-up: Stephanie Jenkins. Hair: Thomas Dunkin at John Frieda



Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

At this time of year, when it's cold and wet outside, what could feel better than to cocoon yourself away, preferably under a big, fluffy duvet. The next best thing is to dress in clothes which make you feel both comfortable and comforted. Clothes which afford spirited glamour with the minimum of effort.

Wearing clothes intended to see you safely between the sheets isn't such a strange idea. Having witnessed the sartorial leap made by lingerie, from underwear to outerwear, it couldn't be long before designers headed to the bedroom for inspiration.

Last season they began to plunder the boudoir, sheer chiffon peignoirs, or négligés, appeared on catwalks, a look somewhere between Blanche Dubois in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Beryl Reid in *Entertaining Mr Sloane*. Pretty, and frothy, but not very practical. By comparison, pyjama suits are a positively sensible choice for entertaining at home.

Night-for-day attire was popular in the Hollywood of the 1940s. Tinseltown's best-known costume designers, Edith Head and Adrien, made it chic enough to be seen outside the bedroom. Shiny satin in oyster or black was a favourite with Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, and Katharine Hepburn.

Today's sirens choose equally seductive fabrics in the same neutral hues. An even more luxurious option is the knitted pyjama suit in 100 per cent cashmere, which feels a million dollars and very nearly costs as much.

To add a certain sexiness, the pyjama suit can be worn with little, cropped sweaters which reveal the navel (this season's erogenous zone), accentuated still further by wearing the elasticated waistline pushed even lower on the hips. A cosier, more homely effect is achieved by introducing warm roll neck sweaters, or enveloping the entire look with a dressing gown style robe cut in plush cotton velvet.

Whether you wear the pyjama suit as a fashion statement or simply to spoil yourself at bedtime, there is no denying the hedonistic appeal of clothes originally designed for nothing more strenuous than dreaming.

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Matthew Parris



■ Why does the approaching prospect of limitless supplies of free electricity not seize the public imagination?

My first Monday column in a new year; and already my interest flags in adding to the heap of light essays about hangovers and New Year resolutions. I feel a bout of seriousness.

Near the end of the year behind us, as 500 watching scientists cheered, science in America took a fascinating step. For just a few seconds nuclear fusion generating vast quantities of heat was achieved. Fusion (unlike fission) makes energy out of almost nothing, and leaves no radioactive waste. The implications for the next millennium have hardly been commented upon. This newspaper was among the few which even bothered to report the event. None, so far as I can see, has followed it up. Yet every twist and turn of our futile political pantomime is endlessly picked over.

This is more important than politics. The production of electricity by nuclear fusion is now likely to prove achievable. It could mean free, unlimited electricity, for ever. It could, within 50 years, end mankind's worries about our planet's reserves of energy. It enormously raises the stakes in the search for better means of storing and transmitting electricity.

Are you interested? A discouraging thought tugs my sleeve. Many, perhaps most, *Times* readers do not turn to this page for this kind of thing. Laymen who sound off about science risk getting it wrong. It is not the first time I have aired my belief that our failure to invent an efficient electric battery knocks a gaping hole through the record of applied science over the past half century. I am in danger of seeming that most tedious thing: an amateur and a bore.

Yet though thousands of scientists have a better theoretical grasp than mine, I am not at all sure that their world is properly linked to the everyday Western household; linked to the world of politics and industry; linked to the minds and pockets of those who fund, or could fund, research.

Accept, if you will, this possibility: that within the next half century electricity could be, to all intents and purposes, free. Then we will be able to make fresh water from sea water, and pump it in unlimited quantities anywhere we like. There need be no more deserts or droughts. Mankind will be able to draw on vast quantities of electrical current for a price (and at a cost to the earth's resources) which is negligible by comparison with today. That prospect is not certain, but must now be possible.

Take the next step in your mind. Power itself might be generated at a fraction of the present cost, probably will be, but electricity remains expensive to transport and almost impossible to store. So bulky are the lead-acid batteries which remain our most common way of storing electrical potential that we transport very little power in stored form, and almost all of it as live alternating current, along conductors consisting mostly of expensive copper or aluminium cable.

The cost of the materials for these conductors and, worse, the cost (in terms of civil engineering) of the infrastructure which carries them, is massive. It is already a major constraint on the use of electricity. It will become *the* constraint on the use of electricity. And it is very ugly. As electricity drops in price, the problem of storing and sending it will fast become the only limitation on its use, and a pressing environmental and industrial headache for governments. The inadequacy of our batteries will irk 100 times more than it does now.

Already we are being bribed to heat up, in our own homes, every night, millions of tin boxes of bricks ("Economy 7 storage heaters") for want of any better way for the power stations to even out their load.

> 'In the next half century electricity could be, to all intents and purposes, free'

You see, electricity has so far lacked the one great quality possessed by oil.

Think about oil. Imagine if BP could not store petroleum and had to sell fuel at half price at night, so it could keep pumping. Imagine the limitations on its use if it could not be carried in tanks but needed a permanent grid of underground pipes and overhead tubes — the equivalent of our electrical grid and domestic wiring. Imagine a world where motor vehicles had to collect their fuel from roadside tubes, as they moved, as electric trolley buses and trains do.

Electric motors are far cheaper, smaller, quieter and more reliable than the internal combustion engine. They dispense with the need for gears, clutch, carburettor, lubrication, cylinders, pistons, exhaust and cooling systems, that a petroleum motor requires. There is one — and only one — reason why this hideous, noisy, filthy invention dominates our age. Petroleum can be stored — and moved — in tanks. Electricity hardly can. In terms of weight and volume, one jerry can of diesel packs more power than five milk floats of lead acid batteries.

Once upon a time the world was waiting for the invention of the wheel, but did not know what it was missing. Now the world is waiting for the invention of an electric battery but does not know what it is missing. When the answer is found, the world will be transformed.

The Vatican's recognition of Israel should be followed by a general act of Christian contrition

Let us apologise to the Jews

William Rees-Mogg

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle has only three references to the Jews. The first is to the sack of Jerusalem by the Emperor Titus, and records that 1.1 million Jews were killed by the Romans in AD 71. The second refers to a false prophet who in 431 turned up in Crete claiming to be Moses and promised to lead the Jews dry shod to the promised land; many were drowned. The third refers to the alleged crucifixion of an English boy in Norwich in 1137, a blood libel which resulted in anti-Jewish riots. Down to the Norman Conquest there was little connection between England and the Jews, though there were small Jewish communities in the Roman period, as there were throughout the Roman empire.

Yet the last reference gives a sinister indication of what was to come. The Jews in England were comparatively well treated under King Henry II, but there were anti-Jewish riots as early as the coronation day of his son, Richard I; there was persecution and extortion under King John; in the next century there was the massacre at York; and finally there was the expulsion of the Jews from England by Edward I in 1290.

Although there were a few individual Jews in the London of Queen Elizabeth I, no Jewish community was re-established until the 1650s. From then on Britain was comparatively open to Jews, though the last civil disabilities were not entirely removed until as recently as 1870. In the 1930s and 1940s Britain's position as the mandatory power in Palestine led us to resist Jewish immigration to what is now Israel, in the interest of the local Arab community. Also in the 1930s Britain retained tight immigration controls which prevented more Jews escaping Hitler by coming here.

The British record is nevertheless one of the better in Europe, though nothing to be proud of. The medieval record is barbarous. In most of the rest of Christian Europe there were more terrible and large scale events. There were the massacres of Jews associated with the Crusades, including the major massacre at the conquest of Jerusalem in 1099. There were the expulsions and the creation of the ghetto. There were the persecution and torture by the Spanish Inquisition. There was the vitriolic anti-Semitism of Martin Luther. There were the Russian pogroms, and the Russian massacres of Polish Jews, of whom some 200,000 are thought to have been killed in the 1650s alone. The 19th century was a period of growing enlightenment, but the Russian persecution continued. The 20th century has seen the Holocaust.

For any Christian, or any Jew, the story is a terrible one, hard even to conceive in one's mind. The Islamic record is somewhat better, though that is also interspersed with periods of persecution. As the largest and most powerful Christian church, the Catholic Church obviously has a particular need to examine its conscience. The general guilt is offset by individual Catholics, individual bishops and individual popes. But the church's record is one of sometimes inciting, sometimes condoning and only sometimes actively opposing persecution. As recently as the early years of this century, British Catholics condoned the vulgar anti-Semitism of some of their leading apologists. In the 1940s, Pope Pius XII, though for reasons which have to be judged with understanding, failed to denounce the Holocaust in other than guarded terms.

If there is one country which has an exceptionally good record in its treatment of Jews, it is the United States. Although every European country has only too much to regret, the United States, and before 1776 the American colonies, have been a secure base for the development of strong Jewish communities. If the absence of state anti-Semitism is an indicator of civilisation, America is more civilised than Europe and Europe no more civilised than Russia.

Since the end of the Second World War, the Catholic Church has taken two steps towards improving the relationship with the Jewish religion and people. The first was the doctrine of reconciliation adopted by the Second Vatican Council. Pope John XXIII was in the line of those great Popes who wanted to establish loving human relationships with the Jews. He was aware of the real blood guilt which has hung over Europe since the Holocaust, and wanted to expiate it. Even though Hitler was an anti-Christian pagan, indeed a persecutor of Christians, the long European Christian tradition of hostility to Jews was one of the factors which made the Holocaust possible.

The second step was taken last week by the Vatican's recognition of the state of Israel, the proposed exchange of ambassadors, and the commitment to oppose anti-Semitism by all means in the church's power. There is a hope that Pope John Paul II will himself visit Israel this year. When he does so, he will no doubt express the repentance of the Christian community for the terrible history of blood.

Very naturally, Christians have been reluctant to face this history, and those ecumenically minded Jews who work with Christians have not thought it right to remind us of it. Yet what has happened to date hardly goes far enough. To start with, it is embarrassing to Catholics that it has taken nearly 50 years for the church to recognise the state of Israel. We know that the Vatican moves slowly and is normally many years behind the times. There were 30 years from the Reformation to the Council of Trent; there was an even longer delay before the opening of the windows of the Vatican by John XXIII. But the delay in recognising Israel did suggest that old prejudices were not entirely dead in the Curia, and there were still those who saw the Jewish relationship in a self-righteous way, though the wrongs are almost entirely on our side.

The Christian churches ought to make some formal act of contrition for what has happened over these 2,000 years; we need not take responsibility for Titus or perhaps for the Cossacks, but we do need to apologise for the massacres, for the Inquisition, for the ghettoes, for the badges, for the expulsions, for the accusations of blood guilt, and above all for the Christian failure to perceive in time, or protest about in time, the full evil of the Holocaust. We do not need to sentimentalise the Jews — not all Jews are saints, Israel is a self-interested state as others are — but we need to accept our responsibility for a history which is the exact opposite of the Christian ethic.

Perhaps in this way the historic good which Pope John Paul II seeks could now be gained. The Jewish and Catholic traditions have two things in common: they both really believe in God, and they both really believe in the moral law. Both therefore are effective opponents of the atheism and moral relativism which are so destructive in the modern world. In Britain there already exists an informal moral alliance between Roman Catholics and the religious Jews to defend common values. That informal alliance should be extended.

Yet I do not see that this benefit can be hoped for without repentance. Christians must be prepared to recognise what has been done to the Jews in the name of their religion. Protestants need to reflect on the ultimate implications of the German anti-Semitism of Luther. Catholics need to reflect on their share in the persecution. Of course, there is the other side; there is the splendid statement of a 15th-century pope which starts with the words: "Whereas the Jews are made to the image of God", but as Christians, who worship a saviour who was a circumcised Jew, we have shared in a history of recurrent destruction of the Jewish people.

Freedom at the going rate

An independent Bank will test the Government, says **Peter Riddell**



Some time later this year, or in 1995 if we are lucky, interest rates will rise. That is not an inside tip, but a statement of the probable. Interest rates do not fall for ever; they tend to rise when the economy is expanding. The decision will be a test both of the political nerves of the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, and of their willingness in practice to give the Bank of England a more independent say over monetary policy.

The future of the Bank has become a live political topic, especially with the search for a new monetary discipline following sterling's forced withdrawal from the exchange-rate mechanism. Eddie George and Rupert Pennant-Rea, the Bank's new governor and deputy governor, have been arguing that it should be given a specific inflation target to guide its conduct of monetary policy. And former Chancellors Nigel Lawson and Norman Lamont have disclosed that during their time in office they came round to favouring independence. This has become the latest fashionable option in the City for solving Britain's economic ills.

The Bank's case has been broadly endorsed by the cross-party Treasury and Civil Service committee of the Commons, and, on January 28, Nicholas Budgen, a Tory member of the committee, will seek a second reading for his private member's Bill implementing its main proposals.

Successive Chancellors have adopted an approach of studied gradualism. After the ERM débâcle, Mr Lamont introduced greater transparency via an explicit 1 to 4 per cent inflation target and a quarterly Bank report on inflation. Kenneth Clarke went further by announcing that the report would be published without prior vetting by the Treasury.

When interest rates were cut in November, just before the Budget, Mr Clarke said decisions on "the precise timing" of changes would be determined by the Bank. However, whether and how much to alter interest rates will still be decided by the Government. These changes do not alter the statutory relationship, but, with Mr George's more forthright style as Governor, they have given the Bank a more public say.

The advocates of greater independence for the Bank argue that this would enhance the credibility of monetary policy against the cynical market view that rate changes are affected by short-term political factors. A change would, on this view, build low inflation into the system.

But fighting inflation can involve loss of output and higher unemployment. Anyone trying to implement the required measures has to win and retain political consent. That argument is most frequently used by neo-Keynesians who believe there is a trade-off between inflation and unemployment. Sir Douglas Wass and Sir Bryan Hopkin, two eminent Treasury officials at the end of the Keynesian era, have argued that the defeat of inflation is only one among several objectives and one which involves costs for the public. They believe it would be "fundamentally mischievous" for a large part of policy "to be removed from the domain of a democratically elected and responsible government".

The argument about the essentially political nature of fighting inflation can be made equally by those of us who believe, like the Bank, that price stability should be the main macro-economic goal. A change might also make it more difficult to co-ordinate monetary and fiscal policy — as shown by the frequent tensions between the independent central banks in America and Germany and their governments.

Mr Major and Mr Clarke are cautious because of the need for accountability to Parliament on monetary policy. Much more than in America or Germany, British ministers are expected to explain and justify important economic decisions to MPs. Labour would not stop criticising the Government over high interest rates just because the Bank had formal responsibility.

The Treasury committee proposals, now in Mr Budgen's Bill, are a sensible compromise. They do not propose formal independence or autonomy, but greater openness. The Government would set targets compatible with price stability and the Bank would have responsibility for achieving them, in both cases accountable to Parliament. Any exceptional override could only be temporary and have to be approved by the Commons.

The Treasury has been tentatively positive and may not seek to block the Bill out of hand. Mr Clarke has joked that Chancellors only want to change the Bank of England's status when they leave Government, not when in office. But he is not opposed to some change provided it is generally acceptable.

There is, however, a danger of treating greater independence as a panacea, the magic answer to our problems, as membership of the ERM was supposed to be. As Gavyn Davies of Goldman Sachs has argued from overseas experience, the success of an independent central bank relies on various factors, such as the structure of the labour market.

The institutional structure is anyway secondary to political will. The real test will be when interest rates have to be raised, as is being shown by the current pressures on the Federal Reserve from the Clinton administration and Congress. It is easy to talk about greater freedom for the Bank when rates are falling; much more difficult when the pressures are upwards. Apart from the exceptional two rises from 10 to 15 per cent on September 16, 1992, the day sterling left the ERM, rates were last raised more than four years ago, before Mr Major became Chancellor, let alone Prime Minister. All occupants of No 10 Downing Street hate raising rates, especially when their parties trail in the polls. Mr Clarke and Mr George both operate by instinct and intuition. At present, they agree. But the Bank's more independent say, particularly via its inflation report, will ensure that the debate will be more public than before. It will be, as one key official put it, an "exciting time".

One long party

FOR MOST of us the festive season is finally over, but for Gus O'Donnell the jollity has scarcely begun. Yesterday he kicked off his final month as John Major's press secretary as he means to go on — with a party. O'Donnell joined the likes of Lord Archer, Raymond Seitz, the newly knighted Bob Scott, and speechwriter Sir Ronald Millar at Chequers for the Majors' New Year party.

Chequers, however, is just the start. The Prime Minister is hosting two leaving parties at No 10 for O'Donnell. Norma Major will join them for the first do, a formal dinner attended mostly by friends from the Civil Service and a Cabinet minister or two.

The second, towards the end of the month, promises to be somewhat rowdier. A drinks reception for political journalists will be attended by no fewer than three Downing Street press secretaries: O'Donnell, his replacement, Christopher Meyer, and his redoubtable predecessor, Sir Bernard Ingham.

Ingham, of course, has been through the leaving process before, although there was understandably little chance for Baroness Thatcher to throw parties at No 10 on his behalf. Despite this deprivation, however, Ingham believes O'Donnell will be doing well to get away with only three parties. He attended at least ten, he says.

"They held a party for me at No 12; there was the lobby party; the American correspondents; the Foreign Press Association; the Information Office held a party; and there were others but I can't recall all the details," he says.

"All I can say is there was an excess of parties and he will seldom draw a sober breath. I think the very important thing is that he does not do any work in January." Sounds a good New Year resolution.

● *Charles Fletcher, who yesterday reported for his new job as press officer at the Red Cross in Geneva, where he will deal with disaster relief, was somewhat taken aback when he discovered the address of his digs in the city. Rue des Asters.*

DIARY

Faux pas

NOT FOR the first time a Russian ballet star has made his excuses and left — somewhat abruptly. Following the premature return of Yuri Klevtsov to Moscow, the English National Ballet has been forced to revise its cast for *The Nutcracker* at London's Royal Festival Hall this month.

The ENB's artistic director, Derek Deane, is disappointed because Klevtsov was to have danced all season. "He told me before he left that he was suffering a recurrence of an old back injury," he says. But that may not be the whole story. "I am also told that he chose to join us without seeking permission from his current employer, the Bolshoi Ballet, and I suspect that this hastened his departure."



Hot seats

TECHNICAL problems have hit the BBC again, this time in the shape of exploding swivel chairs. So worried are managers at BBC Scotland that they have circulated staff with a warning memo and set up a "help desk".

In the memo, Bill Mason, manager of facilities, admits there have been problems previously with the corporation's swivelling furniture. But "the latest incidents relate to the separation of the chair seat section from the base when the height was being adjusted". Staff are encouraged to inspect their own chair — carefully, one assumes.

No chairs are thought to have exploded north of the border so far, but staff have been on alert since November when a metal bolt blasted through the bottom of a chair in Broadcasting House, narrowly missing a delicate part of a technician's anatomy, and embedded itself in the ceiling.

Role model

WEEKEND allegations that the editor of the British edition of the *National Review* was also on the books of a male escort agency must have rattled a few coffee cups among the right-wing intelligentsia. But whatever Andrew Wigmore does or does not do in his spare time, the report in the *Sunday Mirror* is certainly economical with the *actualité* in one important respect.

"What British edition of the *National Review?*" wailed one Tory familiar with the bible of all that is right. "There isn't a British edition."

What, in fact, appears on the news-stands in Britain (and has done since the summer) is the much-admired American edition, edited in New York by John O'Sullivan, the man credited with adding a little zest and sparkle to Lady Thatcher's memoirs. Only once sales of the American edition reach a critical level in this country is there ever likely to be a British edition. And Wigmore? "The only thing that Andrew has been doing is some menial help with distribution," says O'Sullivan.

● *You would think Prince Philip might have learnt to avoid our feathered friends by now — once pecked and all that. But no: according to the January issue of* Bird Watching *magazine, the British Trust for Ornithology's New Breeding Atlas was launched in the presence of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.*





Williams will soon be honoured; Jacques is pending.

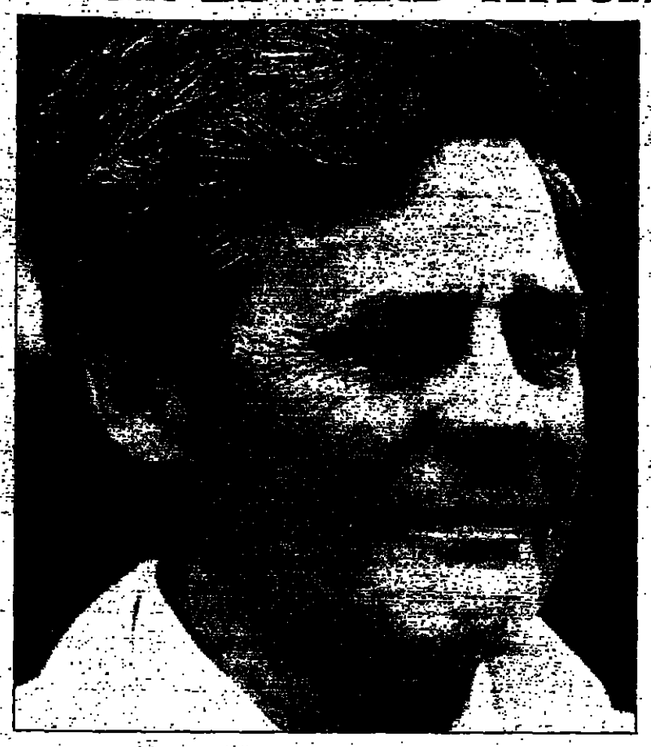
How to drive comedians up the wall

"MY mother-in-law was so ugly they had to put the blue plaque on her . . . blank?" Les Dawson, of course, was one of the great comedians who finally ran out of live material in 1993, along with the likes of Kenneth Connor and Bernard Bresslaw. These final curtain calls ensure that 1994 will be another busy year for the Dead Comics Society, the charitable trust which marks the passing of Britain's most missed comedians with a plaque on their homes. David Graham, who founded the society three years ago, says plans are advanced for three unveilings — Kenneth Williams in the spring, followed by a double ceremony in the autumn for the *Dad's Army* stars Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier. That will take the total number of plaques into double figures but with none, as yet, commemorating a comedienne. Graham says putting that imbalance right is one of his priorities. "I'm working on plans to honour Joyce Grenfell and Hattie Jacques at the moment."

OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR EDWARD HITCHCOCK

Edward Hitchcock, Professor of Neurosurgery, University of Birmingham, died from a heart attack on December 29 aged 64. He was born in Monmouthshire on February 10, 1929.



EDWARD HITCHCOCK was the country's foremost practitioner in stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. Overseas he had been called The 20th century Columbus of the Brain — because he had explored the human brain and spinal cord from so many directions. He attracted wide public attention, and some criticism, by pioneering the use of foetal brain transplants to treat patients with Parkinson's disease.

He designed his own stereotactic frame, used in the UK and overseas, to enable three-dimensional geometric calculations to direct probes, electrodes or focused irradiation with great accuracy to sites within the brain and spinal cord. He was particularly distinguished for his work in functional neurosurgery in which treatment aims to adjust disordered physiology of the central nevous system. He was especially prominent in treating symptoms of Parkinson's disease, most recently by embryonic brain grafting for which he used a stereotactic probe to implant neural tissue taken from spontaneously-aborted human foetuses into the brains of patients suffering from severe Parkinson's disease.

In 1988 enormous interest was excited worldwide when Hitchcock first reported that he had performed this operation. Despite the severity of their condition some patients showed clinical improvement. An editorial in *The Lancet* warned against such operations, arguing that it would be ten or twenty years before the long-term value of such treatment could be established while anti-abortionists complained that the surgery could lead to the exploitation of aborted foetal tissue.

Although the clinical place of the technique is still being decided Hitchcock's accomplishment was a very important step in neural transplantation. His work remains the most advanced research in this area.

He made important advances in other aspects of functional neurosurgery including the treatment of intractable pain and the operative treatment of psychiatric illness related to epilepsy. In the course of his clinical operations he made extensive study of the physiological function of structures deep in the brain and spinal cord.

Edward Robert Hitchcock was educated at Lichfield Grammar School and studied medicine at the University of Birmingham. In 1951 he was the leader and medical officer of a Birmingham University expedition which mapped West Spitzbergen geologically. After surgical training at Birmingham and at University College Hospital, London, he trained in neurosurgery from 1961 to 1965 at Oxford and Manchester. Between 1965 and 1978 he was Senior Lecturer, then Reader, in Surgical Neurology at the University of Edinburgh.

He had been Professor of Neurosurgery at Birmingham University since 1978. Throughout this time he was based as honorary consultant neurosurgeon at the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery & Neurology (MCNN) at Smethwick which he made the country's leading centre for stereotactic and functional neurosurgery.

At the MCNN he introduced into the UK stereotactic radiosurgery to treat cerebrovascular malformations and certain tumours by irradiation from a linear accelerator focused stereotactically on the intracranial lesion of concern.

Throughout his career he gave considerable time to laboratory research. At the MCNN he ran two extensive programmes in the laboratory. One complementary to his clinical treatment of Parkinsonism studied the neurobiology of donor cells for brain implantation. The other dealt with the biology of intracranial tumours.

Hitchcock always maintained a very large NHS practice in the more general aspects of neurosurgery. In his operating he was decisive, quick and resourceful. During surgery he retrieved life-threatening situations coolly and effectively.

He was exceptionally concerned for medical education. He reorganized the neuroscience teaching for medical undergraduates at Birmingham and at the MCNN he introduced a vigorous postgraduate teaching programme. He was always, himself, at the forefront whether at the bedside or in the lecture theatre. Students greatly appreciated the enthusiasm and clarity of his teaching.

Neurosurgeons round the world regarded him highly as a friend, clinician and scientist. He was a senior member of many international neurosurgical bodies, president of the European Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, vice-president of the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, and founded the International Society for Psychiatric Surgery. Internationally he was in demand to participate at postgraduate courses, symposia and congresses. Edward Hitchcock's personal energy was enormous. He insisted on high standards of work and professional conduct from junior medical staff and nurses who, in turn, found him always approachable and very supportive. He was stimulating company a lively presence and an outstanding conversationalist.

For BBC radio he made a series describing the progress of a doctor's life, contributed talks to a series concerned with the use of words in the English language, and advised on neurological aspects of storylines in radio series such as *The Archers*. A BBC television programme dealt with his operative treatment of Parkinson's disease by the stereotactic implantation of foetal cells.

Hitchcock entertained extensively at home where he was an excellent host. Often visitors from overseas would contribute headgear, representative of their home countries, to his large collection of hats. In *Who's Who* he set down "capology" as one of his interests. His more conventional recreations included dry-fly fishing and, in recent years, flying microlite aircraft.

Edward Hitchcock was a Christian with a deep abiding faith, devoted to his wife Jill and his three sons and daughter who survive him.

THOMAS WATSON

Thomas J. Watson Jr, president and chairman of the IBM corporation, 1952-71, died of complications following a stroke at Greenwich, Connecticut, on December 31 aged 79. He was born in Dayton, Ohio, on January 8, 1914.



HE WAS dubbed "the greatest capitalist who ever lived" by *Fortune* magazine; a somewhat dubious compliment, but one which Thomas Watson probably deserved. He was largely responsible for leading America and the world into the computer age. In the space of less than two decades he transformed International Business Machines Corporation from a medium-sized company making punch-card machinery, typewriters and adding machines into "Big Blue," an icon on Wall Street and one of the largest corporations in the world. Under his leadership IBM charted the path of corporate computing.

Watson's business career was meteoric, but it was hardly a story of rags to riches. He was born into a privileged and wealthy family, received a private education, and once confessed that he spent his years at Brown University mostly "flying airplanes and fooling around." Though an indifferent student, he finally managed to graduate from Brown in 1937, and then spent five years in the Army Air Corps during the Second World War.

Demobilised in 1946 at the age of 32, with no experience in business, Watson began looking for a job. He did not have to look far. His father, John Watson Sr., was president of IBM, which he had taken over in 1914. Watson became a salesman for the company in New York's financial district, selling the tabulating machinery which was then used to collate statistics. Six years later, when his father retired in 1952 he was named as the corporation's new president, becoming chairman in 1961.

For once, nepotism worked wonders. Watson had been keeping a close watch on the newly-developing technology of electronic computers, and became convinced of its immense importance for business and industry. He assembled a cadre of young executives to help him switch the company's direction. By 1955, when "computer" had suddenly become a magic word, IBM was poised to supply the need. The company grew from about $700 million in annual revenues to $7.5 billion during his tenure as chief executive

"Top executives rightly believed that the companies of the future were going to be computer-run," Watson later recalled. "Everybody wanted one... even though precisely how to use the machines was still a mystery. It became the consensus that management ran a bigger risk by waiting to computerise than by taking the plunge."

Such a seller's market was a salesman's dream, and Watson proved to be a salesman of no mean talent. He was also a clever manager and an unyielding competitor, and the IBM main-frame computers soon dominated the world market to such an extent that the US Government brought action against the company under the anti-trust laws. The suit was dropped in 1982.

Routinely working 12 to 14 hours a day, travelling constantly between IBM's far-flung outposts, Watson drove his subordinates as hard as he drove himself. He created a policy of internal competition among IBM managers, known as the "contention system," under which almost anyone was allowed to challenge the decisions of others, even their superiors, and force them to explain their reasoning. This worked well during the two decades of IBM's phenomenal expansion, but was later to be blamed for bogging down decision-making in layers of corporate bureaucracy.

Thomas Watson retired from IBM in 1971 at the age of 57, retaining only a few shares. He watched from the sidelines as the company endured its recent financial losses and huge staff cuts, brought on by the decline in demand for mainframe computers. "They hired my father to make a go of this company in 1914, the year I was born," he told a 1992 interviewer. "To some degree I've been a part of IBM ever since. When you see something you love have great difficulties, you are very sad about it."

A lifelong Democrat, Watson became an ardent advocate for nuclear arms reduction after his retirement, and in 1979 was appointed US ambassador to Moscow by President Carter. He held the post until 1981. His memoirs, *Father, Son & Co* (1990) contained a surprisingly candid account of his often stormy relationship with his father.

Thomas Watson is survived by Olive, his wife of 52 years, one son and five daughters.

RAYMOND GARDNER

Raymond Gardner, divorce lawyer, died on December 29 aged 79. he was born on June 27, 1914.

RAYMOND GARDNER practiced family law for 60 years and was one of an elite group of leading divorce lawyers of the day, known as "the magic circle" who handling well-known society cases. In one case he had to draw up a discretion statement for his client — a ship's doctor — who claimed that he had committed adultery with 22 women on separate occasions but on the same journey.

Gardner was asked recently why he thought people got divorced and he replied, "It always has something to do with lack of understanding and lack of forgiveness."

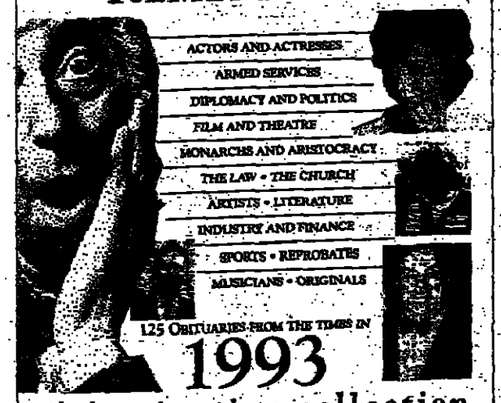
Educated at St Pauls School, Raymond Frank Gardner joined the London firm of solicitors, Gordon Dadds in 1932 and was admitted as a solicitor in 1937. He had intended to pursue a career as a physical education instructor but recognised that the law would suit him better.

Gardner was an accomplished sportsman. He played tennis for Middlesex, was coached by Dan Maskell and since 1947 had been a member of the All England Lawn Tennis Club and played at Junior Wimbledon. He was a member of the Royal & Ancient Golf Club and the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers.

Raymond Gardener was predeceased by his wife Margaret and his only son.

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RALPH DOWNES

Ralph Downes, CBE, organist, died on December 24 aged 89. He was born in Derby on August 16, 1904.

THE single most important figure on the postwar British organ scene, Ralph Downes was organist at the Brompton Oratory for 42 years from 1936 and designer and curator of the 1954 organ in the Royal Festival Hall.

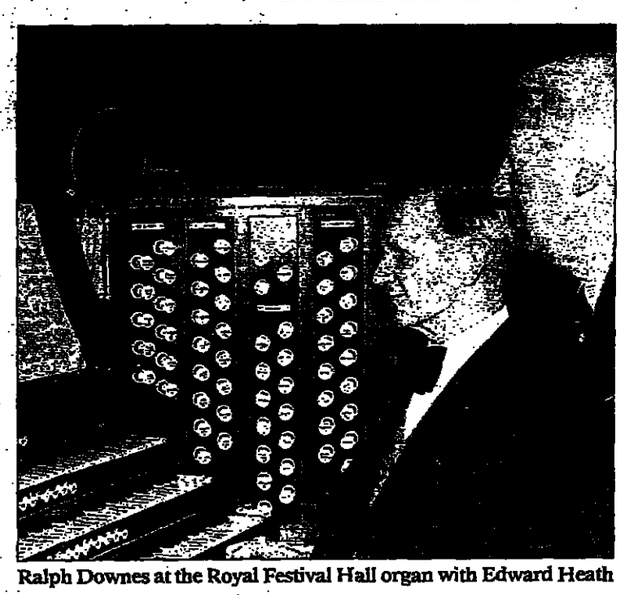
In the face of an entrenched traditionalist opposition, this organ provided a controversial, heroic reassertion of classical ideals of balance and natural pipe-speech and forced a fundamental reassessment in this country of organ design, repertoire and interpretation. Downes continued to exercise decisive influence over the next three decades, as recitalist, teacher and designer, playing a leading role in dragging English organ culture back out of the tributaries and into the mainstream of the broad European tradition.

Ralph William Downes' passion for the organ was early inflamed, particularly by those instruments possessing (in his own words) "a healthy lack of inhibition". He retained an astonishingly detailed aural memory of the organs by 19th century masters such as Hill, Lewis and "Father" Willis, which he heard in their pristine state in his teens. After two years as a cinema organist in Nottingham, he studied at the Royal College of Music from 1923 and was also assistant organist at Southwark Cathedral. In 1925 he won the organ scholarship at Keble College, Oxford and, on coming down in 1928, he went to America to be Organist and Director of Music at Princeton University Chapel.

Already profoundly dissatisfied with the direction of British organ-building — with its heavy wind-pressures, consequent opaque sonorities and inability, adequately, to project the majority of the classic organ repertoire — his seven years in the United States provided opportunities to encounter early reformist trends in organ-building (especially in the person of Donald Harrison) and specialists in baroque music.

In 1929 he married Agnes Rix, a fine pianist who died in 1980, and in 1930 he entered the Roman Catholic Church, immersing himself with typical thoroughness in study of the performance and accompaniment of Gregorian chant.

In 1936 he seized the opportunity to return to England as Organist of the London (Brompton) Oratory, where, developing the skills of his early cinema years, he provided wonderfully convincing adaptations of the orchestral accompaniments of Viennese masses for solo organ. He forged a famous partnership with the then recently appointed musical director, Henry Washington, a pioneering stylist in Renaissance polyphony, whose fastidious performances were matched by the sensitivity, grandeur and liturgical appositeness of Downes's playing. The partnership was to continue for 37 years until Washington's retirement in 1973. Downes remained the Oratory's organist until 1977, but he still played occasionally as Organist Emeritus until 1991.



Ralph Downes at the Royal Festival Hall organ with Edward Heath

By the late 1940s Downes had gained a reputation as a player of scrupulous informed musicianship and unrivalled breadth of repertoire; he had been bowled over by the Parisian masterpiece of the great nineteenth-century organ-builder, Cavaille-Coll, which he heard in the company of the reed-voicer, Louis Eugene-Rochesson, who was later to assist with the Festival Hall reed stops; he had pored over the monumental 18th century organ treatise of Dom Bedos; and he had made tentative steps towards putting his developing tonal ideas into effect with remedial experiments at the Oratory and Buckfast Abbey.

When he was commissioned in 1948 to design the Royal Festival Hall organ, his creative persona was fully formed, though not yet fully informed, for it was only during the gestation of the RFH organ that he first heard, at the instigation of Lady Susi Jeans and Robert Noehren, the great baroque organs of the Dutch-German tradition, with their glittering, transparent choruses. What fuelled his vision was his unquenchable curiosity and enthusiasm for organ music of all periods and its associated type of instrument; what fired it was his interpretative drive, an inner imperative to create a modern instrument that would allow the player to project the music justly to the listener.

Downes realised that this ideal could only be achieved by his exercising an extraordinary control over every aspect of design and execution. It is to the eternal credit of the builders, Harrison and Harrison of Durham, that they accepted his regime and that they remained loyal to him and his vision despite the private squalls and public storms (some of them in the correspondence columns of *The Times*) of a five-year voyage through uncharted waters — of new pipe-scales, meticulously planned, of new concepts of balance within and between stops and, indeed, of basic organ-tone itself.

Both at the time of the RFH organ, and after, Downes was accused of neo-baroquery (his 1983 memoir is ironically entitled *Baroque Tricks*) and of formulaic eclecticism. But his achievement in filtering diverse historical influences through his understanding of the organ and organ music history, and through the empirical judgement of his own creative ear to produce versatile, stylistically coherent and musically eloquent instruments is now generally accepted.

His legacy of great organs, built in collaboration with various firms, include Buckfast Abbey (1952), the London Oratory (1954), St. Alban's and Gloucester Cathedrals (1963 and 1971), Croydon's Fairfield Halls (1964), Paisley Abbey (1968) and St. David's Hall, Cardiff (1982).

Downes's standing as a player would have been secure even without his exploits as a designer. His repertoire, which continued to expand even in his eighties, ranged from the medieval Robertsbridge Codex to Jean Guillou. He was the only British organist in the immediate postwar years to command general European respect as a player of the central classics, performing and adjudicating at all the major European centres. His playing style, direct and entirely devoid of interpretative tricks, was noted for its inner fire, fidelity to the score and incisive judgement of tempi, articulation and registration.

Despite his deserved reputation as a baroque interpreter, he was a consummate master of Romantic registration and an indefatigible champion of new music, giving the British premières of the first two sonatas of Hindemith, Schoenberg's *Variations on a recitative*, Milhaud's *Neuf Preludes* and Messiaen's *Versaut por la fete de la Dedicace*. He was the only instrumentalist to appear at every Aldeburgh Festival in Britten's lifetime and was organist to both the London Philharmonic and Philharmonia Orchestras.

Not surprisingly Downes was the most sought-after organ teacher in the country, especially from 1954 to 1975, when as professor of organ at the Royal College of Music he trained a new generation of leading players, including Nicholas Danby, Gillian Weir, Nicholas Kynaston and Thomas Trotter.

His interest in and generosity towards promising young players, whether his own pupils or not, was unstinting. His phone-calls of exhortation, advice and criticism, invariably made at dead of night or at crack of dawn, were legendary. Secrets of the trade he never kept to himself and wisdom and reminiscences were liberally retailed.

Downes was a man of scrupulous integrity and spiritual humility. Courageous and unceasingly inquisitive, he could be famously testy, yet amusingly and self-deprecatingly honest.

His absorption in the task at hand was absolute, whether it were baking his own bread or devotedly tending one of his organs, both being activities he would perform well into the night well into his final years.

He was appointed CBE in 1969 and a Papal Knight of St. Gregory in 1970. He is survived by his son, the art historian, Professor Kerry Downes.

Nature notes

SONG thrushes are suddenly singing everywhere in the south of England. They sit on a high branch so that their voice carries, and their song contains many ringing repetitions of some of the varied notes.

Their numbers have been reduced in recent years, but there will probably still be getting on for a million breeding pairs in Britain in 1994. Long-tailed tits are feeding in family parties in woodland and garden trees: they are black and white birds with a strong pink flush on the upper parts. At night they roost huddled together, and will continue to do so until they have built their nests in March or April.

Robins look very fat on cold mornings: they puff their feathers out to insulate themselves. They feed mainly on the ground, and are very sharp-eyed: they will leap a yard to pick up a tiny insect they have seen moving.



The long-tailed tit

On some sallow trees, the first silvery catkins are breaking out of the brown buds. Rosebay willow-herb is still standing firm, with bedraggled seeds at the top of the dry grey stalks. Under many ash trees, the ground is now littered with the fallen seeds, or keys.

DJM

FRANCE IN 1899.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

PARIS, Dec. 31

If I wished to sum up in one expression the past year, which has left behind its memories of sadness and almost of humiliation, I should describe it as "the year of hatred". There is hatred between Frenchmen. How, then, should there not be hatred between Frenchmen and foreigners? And the truth is that with the exception of the factitious affection felt for Russia, which would vanish at the first demonstration of its futility or fallacy, there is hatred more or less manifest for everybody, at home as abroad. This hatred which is alas! the dominant trait of the moral state of France, is the greatest calamity with which the present age has been visited, and may, at a moment of paroxysm, jeopardise both internal and external peace. This is the great danger before us. Curiously enough, England, of all nations, is the object of the great sum of hatred which has been accumulating for

ON THIS DAY

January 3 1900

Not only in France, but also in Germany and the United States, bad feeling against Britain reached new heights for its role in the Boer War.

12 years in the French mind. Despite all the clamour incited against England, France cannot attack her. I do not mean that France contemplates an attack on England, or that the hatred paraded by her aspires to sanguinary satisfaction. I merely say that the animosities heaped up at home may seek a vent abroad, and that any change in the present form of government will result in a foreign war at an early date. I say this to prove the stupidity and mischievousness of the men who have made England the target for French hatred, and who fancy that they have served the Boers, not merely by extolling them and heralding their victories, but by denouncing England which they imagined to be destroyed because she had lost a few thousand men, killed, wounded, or captured. The present war and four years' mysterious efforts of President Kruger's envoys have produced a singular phenomenon — viz., the infamous and disgraceful publications against the Queen. That Sovereign, who has served as a model to all that constitutes the force of organised societies, who has concentrated in herself all that makes great rulers, conjugal fidelity, maternal affection, and to whom future generations will bow with respect and admiration, has been the target of abject pens and degraded pencils. This is the most disgraceful phenomenon in the whole of this outburst instigated by the disseminators of universal hatred and maintained by men who, unable to gain anything by love, have made hatred their instrument for storming power.

NEWS

New fertility treatment facing ban

■ A new infertility treatment that uses eggs from aborted foetuses is likely to be banned in Britain.

The technique, which specialists say could be available within three years, has been descibed by opponents as "womb-robbing" and as creating "babies from the dead". But it is backed by infertility specialists hampered by a shortage of donor eggs Page 1

Clinton to bar east Europe from Nato

■ Only a week before President Clinton attends the Nato summit in Brussels, he has made a U-turn by deciding not to extend membership to Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The new policy, designed to appease Russia, will cause concern in eastern Europe. It will, however, be welcomed by Britian, an advocate of caution Pages 1, 7, 13

Deadline for IRA

The Prime Minister effectively gave the IRA until the end of the month to respond to the joint declaration on the future of Northern Ireland Page 1

Call to resign

Tim Yeo, the Countryside Minister, faced fresh calls from his constituency to resign after he admitted fathering an illegitimate child Page 1

Work for nothing

Britons will have to work non-stop for 145 days, until May 24, to pay the tax man Page 1

Plea for discipline

John Major appealed to teachers to join the government in a campaign to raise standards of discipline in schools Page 2

Nairobi encounter

The Archbishop of Canterbury will meet southern Sudan's warring rebel commanders in Nairobi at the end of his controversial four-day visit to the war-ravaged country Page 2

Agency attacked

The controversial Child Support Agency has been accused of breaching the Data Protection Act by passing on confidential details of divorced people to their former spouses Page 3

Car of the future

An electric car that may break the dominance of the internal combustion engine will be unveiled at one of the world's leading automobile shows Page 4

Open tribunals

One of the most secret courts, the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal, is to open its doors to the public as the number of lawyers appearing before it approaches record levels Page 4

Timebomb seats

The Conservatives stand to gain from the creation of new seats in rural areas, but many of the changes proposed by the Boundary Commission would have the effect of turning more Tory seats into marginals Page 5

Deadly sounds

The new year came to Sarajevo with a long series of bangs and a solidarity concert by Barbara Hendricks, the American soprano. Sarajevans, however, only heard the bangs; for without electricity they could not tune in to the live performance Page 7

Afghans battle

More than 70 people were reported killed and about 700 injured as battles raged for a second day in the Afghan capital Page 8

Mexico rebellion

Indian guerrillas withdrew from towns they seized in a peasant rebellion in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas as troops were sent in Page 8

Balladur accused

French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur is being criticised for caving in to Iranian threats with a decision to deport to Tehran two suspected assassins wanted for trial in Switzerland Page 9

Fading playground of eccentrics

■ One of the last great British expatriate communities, which for decades was an exotic paradise for unconventional lifestyles, is dying of old age. Now the British population of Tangiers — whose social life revolved around the elegant drop-outs from London society — has dwindled to an official figure of 198. Many believe the real number is under 100 Page 6



JULIAN HERBERT

Contestants in yesterday's World Pooh-Sticks Championships gazing into the water at Day's Lock, Little Wittenham, Oxfordshire, to watch the progress of their multi-coloured Pooh-Sticks as they float downstream

Cricket: Shane Warne proved once again that he is the game's greatest individual match winner when he took seven wickets for 56 runs on the first day of the second Test match between Australia and South Africa Page 17

Darts: One look at the faces of the contestants tells you all ... this is not a side-show in life: this *is* life. Simon Barnes at one of two world championships Page 19

Rugby Union: While the divisional championship has been derided in many quarters, today's final at Twickenham between London and the South and South-West provides an opportunity for some players to shine Page 24

High street sales: Sales in the high street may have risen over the Christmas and New Year period but retail analysts warn that these will not result in bumper profits. Many stores have had to cut prices and squeeze margins Page 30

Aerospace: British Aerospace is in talks that should lead to the sale of its Space Systems business and an end to its role as Britain's leading satellite manufacturer Page 32

Investment rules: Investment managers could be fined personally by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation for breaching investment rules if proposals in a consultative document are implemented Page 32

The just so house: Rudyard Kipling lived for three idyllic years in Vermont but after he left, it fell into disrepair. Now it is being restored Page 10

All change: One of the mainstays of the Sloane Ranger's social season is on the slippery slopes Page 10

Night-for-day: Wearing clothes intended to see your safely between the sheets isn't such a strange idea. Iain R. Webb on the pyjama suit Page 11

Stop interfering: What does 1994 promise for John Patten, the Education Secretary, and the troubled education scene? Page 29

Literary secrets: Thanks to people like Margaret Thatcher, Vikram Seth, John McCarthy and Jill Morrell, 1993 was the year that the book held its own, despite being constantly under assault from economic pressures and high-tech competition Page 25

Return of haute couture: The *House of Eliott* is back on BBC1 for a third series. Lynne Truss enjoys the beautiful frocks but bemoans the bad dialogue Page 25

Avant-garde in the Big Apple: Performers like Spalding Gray and the Wooster Group are proving that avant-garde theatre is still alive and well and living in New York City Page 26

As the Princess of Wales takes her leave of the paparazzi, *Diana — A Princess Alone* looks back on her life and speculates about her future (ITV, 10.40pm) Page 31

Year of the Atlantic

The West has had four years since the Berlin Wall came down in which to shape new foreign and defence policies. But it has made too little use of them Page 13

Giving rope

Foreign exposure for Zhirinovsky, which has brought with it the merciless attention of the press, makes transparent to Russian voters the poverty of the man's discourse and the dangerous instability of his temperament Page 13

Maids and ladies

Since the turn of the century, society has become more fluid for both sexes. But the chances of a milkmaid finishing as big cheese of Barclays remain remote Page 13

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The Christian churches ought to make some formal act of contrition for what has happened over 2,000 years ... We do not need to sentimentalise the Jews — not all Jews are saints ... but we need to accept our responsibility for a history which is the exact opposite of the Christian ethic Page 12

PETER RIDDELL

Some time later this year, or in 1995 if we are lucky, interest rates will rise. The decision will be a test both of the political nerves of the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, and of their willingness to give the Bank of England a more independent say over monetary policy Page 12

Should the House of Lords be replaced with senators? Page 13

China's new policy on "better babies" ... would arm the Government with new authority to advocate abortion and sterilisation to prevent births of children with disabilities — *The Washington Post*

Africa has witnessed real gains in the past year. South Africa has repudiated apartheid. Peace, however tenuous, prevails in Ethiopia. From Kenya to Zambia, from Malawi to Gabon, ordinary people are clamouring for human and political rights. Gains like these merit a more generous response from richer nations — *The New York Times*



Nicholas Jackson, 27, survived after falling 1,000ft from the summit of a Scottish mountain. The deep snow helped to cushion the impact Page 4



Jung Chang's *Wild Swans*, an account of the lives of three generations of women in China, led record book sales in the run-up to Christmas Page 3



Bill Gates, America's richest bachelor, married his longtime girl friend on New Year's Day on an idyllic Hawaiian island Page 8

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Laughter in court

■ What do you call 2,000 attorneys chained together at the bottom of the sea? David Pannick QC looks at the *Oxford Dictionary of American Legal Quotations* (and gives the answer)

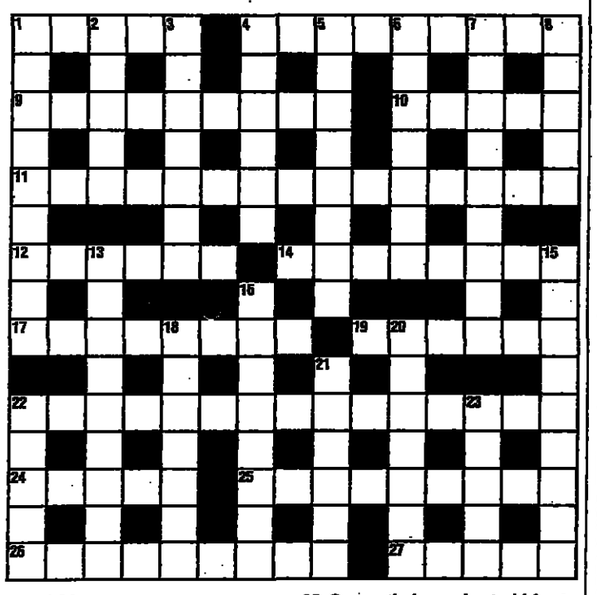
Spiritual remedies

■ Tito, Churchill and de Gaulle tried them, but did they work? Dr James Le Fanu reports on the great rejuvenation remedies of the Forties and Fifties

The culture crisis

■ We have lost our cultural identity — we don't know who we are, warns Chen Kaige, China's most celebrated film director

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,429



ACROSS

1 Sleuth returns about four for the cat (5).
4 Former taxmen now keeping alehouses (9).
9 Plenty of latitude for a Romeo to frolic around in a ship (9).
10 A king's song (5).
11 Their reports can be startling but not wounding (5,10).
12 " 'Tis well averred, A scientific faith's —" (Browning) (6).
14 Rough steel pad for the base (8).
17 Resolution made last month is first to be rejected (8).
19 It's thrown away by a black man (6).
22 It's reasonable to harp on strange beginning of man (15).
24 Drop of stout (5).
25 Over-optimism about bishop's poinsettia, say (9).
26 In a harsh way, it's a blow to the City (9).
27 One left out to burn (5).

DOWN

1 Eccentric directors lacking solidity (9).
2 One member of the orchestra making a bloomer (5).
3 One who contemplates Rodin's work (7).
4 Quiet! The judge is taking notes in the House (6).
5 It's best to dodge a journalist when drunk (8).
6 I state the policy is a ramp (7).
7 A member of religious order has openings but cancels (9).
8 Note on you and me being alone (5).
13 Cutters are clumsy at rescues (9).
15 Like a thin sheet of material girl with casual shirt is wearing (9).
16 Having every part finished (8).
18 Twinge of conscience? It doesn't weigh heavily (7).
20 Engage to express in legal form (7).
21 Impudence in an agent causing very little friction (6).
22 Star gets Ralph a part (5).
23 "Little Fox" has a name in the National (5).

KNOCKANDO
PURE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,428 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

Times Two Crossword, page 32

TIMES TELEPHONES

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 502 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Stn Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Herts	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

TIMES NEWSPAPERS

Saturday: Highest day temp: Scilly Isles 11C (52F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Penzance, Cornwall 0.42in; highest sunshine: Southend-on-Sea, Essex 6.5hr

Tourist rates are on page 32

FORECAST

☐ **General:** South Wales and southern England will start wet and windy. Rain will push across Northern Ireland, and the rest of England and Wales during the morning, and all but northern Scotland in the afternoon. Brighter, showery weather will follow, although likely to remain cold, cloudy and wet in the north. Mild in the South.

☐ **Southern England including the Channel Islands, Wales, the Midlands and East Anglia:** wet and windy, becoming brighter with showers. Wind southeast, moderate becoming southwest, strong to gale. Max 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

☐ **Eastern, northeast and northwest England, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man:** Dry at first, becoming wet and windy. Wind southeast becoming southwest, fresh or strong. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Scotland from the Borders to Central Highlands, including Argyll:** dry and bright at first, becoming wet in the afternoon. Wind south to southeast, fresh becoming light and variable. Max 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

☐ **Northern mainland Scotland:** mainly dry, bright spells. Wind south to southeast, moderate or fresh. Max 5C (41F).

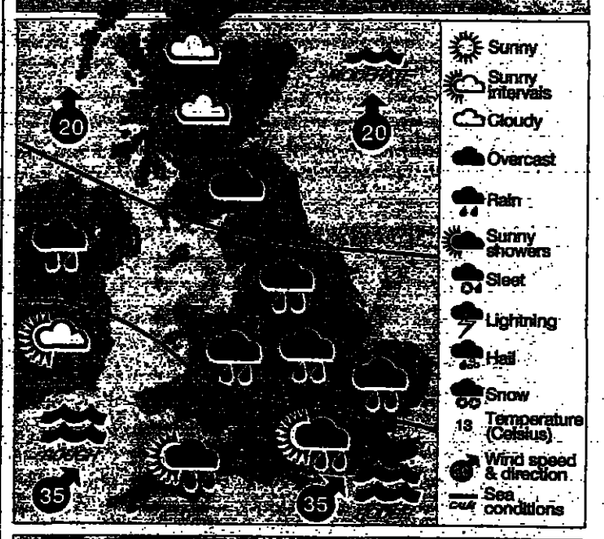
☐ **Orkney and Shetland:** bright spells, showers. Wind south to southeast,moderate or fresh. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** unsettled with rain.

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; d=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	C	F			C	F			C	F
Aberdeen	3	37	b	Dublin	7	45	s	Luxor	21	70	s
Alicante	12	54	c	Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Madrid	10	50	c
Alnmouth	18	64	f	Dundee	X			Majorca	15	59	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Eastbourne	7	45	s	Malaga	19	66	s
Algiers	18	64	s	Edinburgh	5	41	s	Malta	15	59	s
Amst'dm	6	46	r	Eskdalemuir	1	34	fg	Manchester	5	41	b
Anglesey	6	43	c	Exmouth	7	45	du	Margate	6	43	s
Aspatria	5	41	b	Falmouth	X			Melb'rne	X		
Athens	16	59	s	Faro	16	61	c	Mexico C	X		
Aviemore	2	36	s	Florence	5	41	s	Miami	28	79	f
B Aires	25	77	f	Folkestone	6	41	s	Milan	4	39	f
Bahrain	25	77	s	Frankfurt	2	36	d	Minehead	6	43	b
Bangkok	X			Funchal	19	66	f	Montreal	-1	30	sn
Barbados	28	82	f	Geneva	3	37	r	Morecambe	5	41	c
Barcelona	11	52	f	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Moscow	1	34	c
Beirut	18	64	f	Glasgow	4	39	b	Munich	-1	30	sn
Belfast	4	39	lg	Guernsey	10	50	r	N Delhi	20	68	s
Belgrade	4	39	c	Hastings	7	45	s	N York	5	41	f
Berlin	1	34	c	Helsinki	-2	28	c	Nairobi	23	82	s
Bermuda	20	68	s	Hong K	21	70	s	Naples	12	54	f
Biarritz	16	61	c	Hunstanton	4	39	s	Newcastle	5	41	b
Birmingham	5	41	s	Innsbruck	-1	30	sn	Newquay	X		
Blackpool	7	45	f	Inverness	4	39	c	Nice	11	52	f
Bognor R	7	45	s	Isle of Man	7	45	s	Norwich	4	39	s
Borde'x	12	54	r	Istanbul	10	50	c	Nottingham	4	39	s
Bournem'th	8	46	c	Jeddah	31	88	s	Oslo	-7	19	sn
Bristol	6	43	b	Jersey	9	48	r	Paris	11	52	c
Brussels	8	46	c	Jo'burg	21	70	f	Peking	4	39	s
Budapest	5	43	s	Kinloss	4	39	s	Penzance	8	48	r
Buxton	3	37	b	L Angels	16	61	f	Perth	X		
Cairo	19	66	f	L Palmas	20	68	s	Plymouth	7	45	r
Cape Tn	24	75	f	Le Touqt	10	50	f	Poole	6	43	b
Cardiff	6	43	c	Leeds	5	41	b	Prague	0	32	c
Ch'church	21	70	f	Lerwick	X			Reykjavik	3	37	c
Chicago	4	39	c	Leuchars	4	39	s	Rhodes	14	57	r
Clacton	4	39	s	Lisbon	15	59	c	Riyadh	28	82	s
Cleethorpes	X			Llandrindod	7	45	s	Rome	11	52	f
Cologne	5	41	r	Liverpool	6	43	b	Ronaldsway	9	48	s
Colwyn Bay	7	45	sh	Locarno	3	37	f	Ross-o-wye	6	43	b
Corfu	13	55	f	London	7	45	s	Ryde	X		
C'phagn	2	36	c	Lowestoft	6	43	b	S Fr'sco	9	48	lg
Cromer	6	41	s	Luxemlg	8	46	c	S Paulo	26	79	c
Salcombe	X									
Salzburg	2	36	sn							
Sandown	6	43	b							
Santiago	29	84	s							
Saunin Snd	7	45	c							
Scarboro'	5	41	s							
Scilly Isles	11	52	r							
Seoul	6	43	c							
Shanklin	8	46	s							
Sing'por	28	82	f							
Skegness	X		s							
Southend	5	41	s							
Southport	5	43	b							
Southsea	8	46	b							
St'kholm	-4	25	sn							
Stornoway	5	41	sh							
Strasb'rg	9	48	c							
Swanage	8	46	sh							
Sydney	X									
Tangier	17	63	f							
Teignmouth	9	48	c							
Tel Aviv	18	64	c							
Tenby	7	45	c							
Tenerife	20	68	f							
Tiree	X									
Tokyo	9	48	s							
Toronto	3	37	sn							
Torquay	7	45	c							
Tunis	16	61	c							
Tynemouth	5	41	s							
Valencia	16	61	f							
Vanc'ver	9	48	c							
Venice	6	43	f							
Ventnor	9	48	s							
Vienna	3	37	s							
Warsaw	2	36	c							
Wash'ton	3	37	c							
Wel'ngton	20	68	f							
West-s-mare	5	41	du							
Weymouth	6	43	r							
Wick	X									
Zurich	4	39	sl							

These are Saturday's figures. X = not available



Changes to chart from noon: low P will edge east and deepen. Lows Q and S will move northeast and deepen. Low R will move northeast and lose its identity. A low (992) to the north of Norway will remain stationary with little change in pressure

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.02	8.94	5.33	8.92	Liverpool	2.25	8.84	2.23	9.11
Aberdeen	4.48	4.04	4.55	4.22	Lowestoft	12.22	2.58	1.08	2.25
Avonmouth	10.36	12.7	11.02	12.2	Margate	3.05	4.79	3.51	4.45
Belfast	2.11	3.19	2.34	3.58	Milford Haven	8.41	5.73	10.07	6.36
Cardiff	10.21	11.8	10.47	11.8	Newquay	8.36	5.70	9.02	6.40
Devonport	9.13	5.90	9.40	6.0	Oban	5.59	3.80	6.23	3.49
Dover	2.18	6.52	4.22	6.25	Penzance	8.21	5.40	8.50	6.10
Falmouth	8.43	5.10	9.10	4.80	Portland	9.39	1.90	10.29	1.70
Glasgow	4.18	4.50	4.15	5.10	Portsmouth	2.34	4.60	2.45	4.50
Harwich	2.55	3.84	3.27	3.81	Shoreham	2.19	6.32	2.35	6.12
Holyhead	1.32	5.23	1.48	5.47	Southampton	2.08	4.47	2.20	4.32
Hull	9.44	7.06	9.58	7.28	Swansea	9.41	8.98	10.10	8.56
Ilfracombe	9.22	5.87	9.49	5.48	Tees	7.12	4.99	7.21	5.15
King's Lynn	8.50	6.10	9.57	6.50	Weston-Ms	2.48	4.07	3.22	4.04
Leith	6.04	5.30	6.18	5.34					

Sun rises: 8.06 am — Sun sets: 4.04pm
Moon sets 10.25 am — Moon rises 11.22 pm
Last quarter January 5

London 4.04 pm to 8.06 am
Bristol 4.14 pm to 8.16 am
Edinburgh 3.52 pm to 8.43 am
Manchester 4.02 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 4.32 pm to 8.21 am

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1994. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kitting Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HY, telephone 051-546 2000. Monday, January 3, 1994. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

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THE TIMES

MONDAY JANUARY 3 1994

South Africans bemused by leg spinner's bag of tricks

Warne's wizardry inspires collapse

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN SYDNEY

CRICKET is in the presence of a rare and special talent, envied yet marvelled at even by those who come under its spell. Yesterday, it was the South Africans who danced to Shane Warne's mesmeric time as the second Test match here supplied all the drama and atmosphere denied to Melbourne last week.

Not for nothing is Warne known as "Hollywood", for he has written his own outlandish scripts often enough. This, however, was akin to pressing the fast-forward button on the video set and watching the final scene first.

Many forecast that Warne would win Australia this game on a worn pitch in the fourth innings. Few could predict that he would dictate its course by taking seven wickets on the opening day.

Yesterday's feat, perhaps more than anything he achieved during a starry-eyed 1993, when he took 72 Test wickets, confirmed that Warne is no ordinary leg-spin bowler, indeed no ordinary cricketer. Notwithstanding the macho bombardment of the West Indian speed quartet and the potency of Pakistan's new-ball attack, Warne, 24, is the greatest individual match-winner playing Test cricket today and could remain so for years to come.

South Africa, having won what looked a useful toss on a pitch few batsmen will entirely trust, approached the middle of the second session at 91-for-one. It had been a mostly sedate drive, with few hazards but, once the second-wicket pair was split by Craig McDermott, Warne caused a dramatic diversion.

Summoned by Allan Border for a third spell, he took six for 14 in 43 balls, destroying the South Africans with his range, confidence and, most striking-ly, a consummate control denied to most of his type. His first three wickets were all gained by the flipper and he completed a wondrous exhibition with figures of seven for 56, which have every chance of shattering South Africa's self-esteem for the four remaining Tests between the countries this winter.

At one stage, Warne took wickets in five consecutive overs, each time returning to his fielding position at long leg and an ovation from what was once the Sydney Hill. The ground, thronged by the biggest Sydney Test crowd for 11 years — 32,681 — hummed with patriotic fervour.

This, as England discovered last summer, is an efficient and effervescent Australian side which has inspirational bowlers — McDermott and Hughes, when fit, quite apart from Warne — to twist the knife. They have come to expect success, so the first half of yesterday's play came to them as a chastening experience.

It began promisingly enough with the novice fast bowler Glenn McGrath, a beanpole in the mould of a young Neil Foster, removing Andrew Hudson leg-before with the fifth ball of his first over. A young man cannot ask for much more when he first plays a Test in his home town.

The ball came through at varying pace and height from a motley pitch, but either side of lunch, the batsmen resisted. Hansie Cronje, after seven overs marooned on nought, made progress only through an involuntary four over the slip cordon from the bat's shoulder, while Gary Kirsten batted lavishly but needed his luck.

McDermott, however, bowled with great hostility after lunch and the breach came when Cronje, the best organised of the young South African batsmen, for once neglected his footwork, carving firm-footed and seeing Mark Waugh take off to his right to hold a stunning catch in the gully.

Border sensed the moment and whistled up the wizard. Warne beginning the day's serious business by hitting Cullinan's off stump as he probed uncertainly. Rhodes was undone the same way, neither forward nor back against the fizzing quicker ball, and then Kirsten, who had flourished through use of his feet against spin, paid the price when Warne fired one faster and wider and Healy made a smart stumping.

Now, it was mayhem. Richardson, who looked clueless, edged a routine slip catch, and the South Africans were thoroughly derailed when Wessels, plainly inconvenienced by his knee injury, tamely drove a full toss back to the exultant Warne.

With the second ball after tea, Warne took his sixth wicket in the spell and although he had to bowl another five overs for the seventh, it was worth the wait. Graham Gooch knows what it is to be bowled round his legs by a ball from Warne and now it was the turn of a less illustrious figure, Pat Symcox.

Later, the match ball and a packet of cigarettes sharing pride of place before him, Warne was modesty itself. "I had a few ideas about how they played and I suppose they worked out," he said. "It turned more than we expected, though mostly out of the footmarks. Hopefully it will turn a lot more in the second innings."

If so, South Africa can wave goodbye to this match now, for all the merit of a last-hour rally in which Allan Donald helped de Villiers add 17 for the tenth wicket and then produced a ball of high speed and sufficient movement to take Mark Taylor's wicket, approximately eight hours quicker than was managed in Melbourne.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings

A C Hudson lbw b McGrath	0
G Kirsten st Healy b Warne	47
W J Cronje c M E Waugh b McDermott	41
D J Cullinan b Warne	9
J N Rhodes lbw b Warne	4
*K C Wessels c and b Warne	3
†D J Richardson c Taylor b Warne	4
P L Symcox b Warne	7
C R Matthews c Taylor b Warne	0
P S de Villiers c M E Waugh b McDermott	18
A A Donald not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 4, nb 11)	16
Total	169

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-91, 3-110, 4-133, 5-134, 6-141, 7-142, 8-142, 9-152.
BOWLING: McDermott 18.1-2-42-2; McGrath 19-5-32-1; Warne 27-8-56-7; May 10-1-34-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

M A Taylor c Richardson b Donald	7
M J Slater not out	5
D C Boon not out	7
Extras (nb 1)	1
Total (1 wkt)	20

M E Waugh, *A R Border, D R Martyn, †I A Healy, S K Warne, C J McDermott, T B A May and G D McGrath to bat.
FALL OF WICKET: 1-10.
BOWLING: Donald 6-2-10-1; de Villiers 3-1-9-0; Matthews 3-2-1-0.
Umpires: S Randell and W Sheahan.



Warne celebrates the wicket of Rhodes, one of his seven victims. Photograph: Ben Radford/Allsport

First-day success

REMARKABLE as Shane Warne's performance was, 13 other spin bowlers have taken seven or more wickets on the opening day of a Test match (Marcus Williams writes).

The last of them was also on the field yesterday, although few would think immediately of Allan Border's name in this context. In January 1989, also at Sydney, Border claimed seven for 46 with his gentle left-arm slows against West Indies. For good measure, he took four wickets in the second innings and scored 91 runs.

The other bowlers to achieve the feat are: Len Braund and Tich Freeman (England); Bert Ironmonger and Clarrie Grimmett (Australia); Bert Vogler and Aubrey Faulkner (South Africa); Alf Valentine, on his debut, and Sonny Ramadhin (West Indies); Ghulam Ahmed, Subhash Gupte and Maninder Singh (India); and Abdul Qadir (Pakistan).

Bicknell forced to return home by injury

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

MARTIN Bicknell, Surrey's 24-year-old fast medium bowler, is flying home from the England A tour of South Africa after pulling an intercostal muscle against Natal in Durban. Paul Taylor, 29, the Northamptonshire left-arm bowler, will replace him for the last month of the tour.

Bicknell, who was making his first first-class appearance on Saturday, left the field after bowling four overs. Wayne Morton, the team physiotherapist, believes he will need six weeks' rest before he can think of playing cricket again.

Cricket has not always been kind to Bicknell. Selected for the last senior tour of Australia three winters ago, he would have made his Test debut at Perth but for a similar intercostal injury which forced him to go home. The following winter a dislocated shoulder prevented him from going on an A tour to West Indies.

He missed the last six weeks of the last English season with a knee injury which put his place on the tour in doubt. Having worked hard to regain fitness, he has suffered from a persistent rib injury that kept him out of the side for four-day matches until Saturday.

"I was in enormous pain when I came off the field," he said, "and it still hurts when I cough or laugh. It was more painful on Saturday than when I dislocated my shoulder two years ago." Taylor, who toured India with England last year, earning one cap, was a forgotten man last summer. He attended nets at Lilleshall as a spare bowler and was told to keep in trim as a nominated reserve in case an experienced bowler broke down. He will arrive in Pretoria in time for the match against Northern Transvaal on Friday.

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Ireland call up O'Connell for Paris opener

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NOT for the first time an Irish side will take the field against France with a newcomer at open side flanker: two years ago Paul Hogan, of Garryowen, received his first — and only — cap at Parc des Princes and on January 15, Ken O'Connell will be the only debutant in the opening round of rugby union's five nations' championship.

O'Connell, 25, and a medical company representative, came with the latest of runs in yesterday's Ireland trial at Lansdowne Road, for which he was not an original selection. But the absence through injury of Denis McBride and Pat O'Hara (capped initially, like O'Connell, from Sunday's Swell), left a vacancy. Brian Robinson reverts to his familiar No 8 role, with Michael Galwey at blindside flanker.

O'Connell is one of two changes from the side which beat Romania 25-3: the other sees the return of Peter Clohessy to tight head prop at the expense of Gary Halpin (London Irish).

Michael Bradley, the captain and scrum half, will be X-rayed this morning to assess the damage to a cheekbone. But the selectors are optimistic that he, Galwey (back) and Neil Francis (ribs) will have recovered in time to play in Paris.

TEAM

IRELAND (v France, January 15): C P O'Shea (Lansdowne); R M Wallace (Garryowen), V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College), P P A Danaher (Garryowen), S P Geoghegan (London Irish), E P Elwood (Lansdowne), M T Bradley (Cork Constitution, captain), N J Popplewell (Greystones), T J Kingston (Dolphin), P M Clohessy (Young Munster), M J Galwey (Shannon), P S Johns (Dungannon), N P Francis (Old Belvedere), K O'Connell (Sundays Well), B F Robinson (Ballymena). Replacements: M McCall (Bangor), A McGowan (Blackrock College), D Tweed (Ballymena), G Halpin (London Irish), K Wood (Garryowen).

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Glimmer of hope for chasing pack as United slip



Shearer: match-winner

BY KEITH PIKE

SUDDENLY there is a glimmer of hope where none seemed to exist. Manchester United remain unbeatable favourites to win a second successive Premiership title, but football's chasing pack now has reason to look less forlorn.

Having revelled in a lead that has varied between 11 points and 15, United could find their advantage trimmed to single figures for the first time in two months by the time they take on Liverpool at Anfield tomorrow night. Defeat there, and what had seemed a procession might again have become a genuine race.

By holding Manchester United to a goalless draw at Old Trafford on Saturday, Leeds United, in fourth place, gave the other contenders added incentive, and two hours later Blackburn Rovers and Arsenal had taken advantage with victories. They must pose the principal threats to Alex Ferguson's team.

Blackburn take on Wimbledon at Ewood Park this afternoon in the sort of form that only United themselves can better. Wimbledon are likely to be without their inspiration, Fashanu, but there are no such doubts surrounding Alan Shearer, whose remarkable scoring exploits continued on Saturday with the goal that secured victory over Aston Villa.

Arsenal, too, cannot be ignored now that George Graham has settled his mind on his best team and given Wright the support he needs in attack. Victory over Queens Park Rangers at Highbury this afternoon will complete an unblemished holiday programme.

What Everton would give for a goal. Beaten 1-0 at home by West Ham United on Saturday, they have now failed to score in six matches under Jimmy Gabriel since Howard Kendall's resignation, and have slipped uncomfortably close to the relegation zone.

The club's directors resumed discussions on Everton's future ownership after watching the defeat, and had planned to let the new owner choose the permanent successor to Kendall.

A statement issued on Saturday night, though, said that the appointment "cannot wait ... and they intend taking immediate steps to make a new appointment with all possible haste".

Paul Gascoigne played impressively for 50 minutes for Lazio against Sampdoria before a recurrence of his groin strain led to him being substituted in their Italian league game in Rome yesterday. The match ended 1-1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	24	17	6	1	49	20	57
Blackburn	23	13	6	4	32	18	45
Arsenal	24	12	7	5	30	13	43
Leeds	24	11	9	4	38	26	42
Newcastle	23	11	5	6	40	21	39
Norwich	23	10	7	6	35	24	37
Liverpool	23	10	6	7	38	28	36
QPR	23	10	5	8	33	31	35

England A make bad start to an uphill task

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN DURBAN

AFTER a month of dominating opponents to the point of embarrassment, England A must now reveal their character in adversity if they are to avoid an embarrassing defeat of their own at Kingsmead. When bad light ended the second day's play early they had made 43 for two in reply to Natal's 458 for nine.

Hugh Morris, who invited Natal to bat on a pitch that looked green but did not play so, has the best possible chance to atone. Despite a thorough testing from Malcolm Marshall, his opposing captain, he batted through to the close with Wells after Lathwell — again — and Crawley had failed.

Marshall, whose seven overs cost four runs, was not the wicket-taker. He watched from slip as Lance Klusener, a 22-year-old farmer's son, bowled Lathwell, who was shouldering arms, with his fourth ball in first-class cricket. In his fifth over Crawley edged a drive to second slip, where Johnson held an excellent catch to his left.

It was the sort of chance England's fielders have been missing on this tour with worrying regularity. Morris warned after the ten-wicket victory over Western Province last week that unless the standard of fielding and catching improved they could not expect to go on winning matches. Here is the proof.

England finished the first day strongly after Armstrong and Watson had made 192 for the first wicket. They would have ended it even more favourably if they had accepted four chances which either went to ground or, in Lathwell's case, were not picked up in time.

Quite frankly, England's fielding on this tour would disgrace Milnrow third XI. There are no natural movers in the party and, try as he might, not even Rhodes can dignify the returns he is obliged to take, some of them halfway down the pitch.

Wells was in the doghouse on Saturday after letting off Dale Benkenstein at slip when the other Dale, Adrian, was bowling. Benkenstein was 14 at the time and went on to make another 81 before he smeared a ball on middle stump to short mid-wicket. Dale was again the bowler but he was not in any mood for conciliation by then.

Benkenstein, who is 19, looked the best young batsman England have played against in South Africa. This side clearly bats deep as Shaun Pollock, the son of Peter, and Klusener indicated by their contributions.

There were some tired men in the England dressing-room. McCague bowled with heart and Such, who was responsible for 60 of the 156 overs, skill. Gough lacked menace and, for all his worth as an all-rounder, nobody expects Dale to bowl 34 overs. In Bicknell's absence someone had to.

Lathwell is having a shocking time of it. His last four completed first-class innings are 0, 5, 8 and 2. He needs to make "business" runs, and soon.

SCOREBOARD

NATAL: First Innings

C R B Armstrong c Wells b Such	97
D J Watson c Gough b McCague	87
N E Wright c Rhodes b Gough	9
M L Bruyns c Morris b Such	6
N C Johnson b McCague	22
D M Benkenstein c Morris b Dale	95
D N Crookes lbw b Such	16
†U H Goedeke lbw b Dale	20
S M Pollock c Rhodes b Dale	39
L Klusener not out	20
*M D Marshall not out	14
Extras (b 9, lb 9, nb 7)	25
Total (9 wkts dec)	458

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-192, 2-200, 3-214, 4-222, 5-265, 6-292, 7-364, 8-418, 9-429.

BOWLING: McCague 30-8-77-2; Bicknell 4-2-4-0; Gough 31.5-2-134-1; Dale 34-8-95-3; Such 60-15-130-3.

ENGLAND A XI: First Innings

M N Lathwell b Klusener	2
*†H Morris not out	13
J P Crawley c Johnson b Klusener	12
A P Wells not out	14
Extras (lb 1, nb 1)	2
Total (2 wkts)	43

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-17.

M B Love, A Dale, †S J Rhodes, M P Bicknell, D Gough, M J McCague and P M Such to bat.

BOWLING: Marshall 7-4-4-0; Klusener 8-1-27-2; Pollock 5-3-7-0; Crookes 3-2-4-0

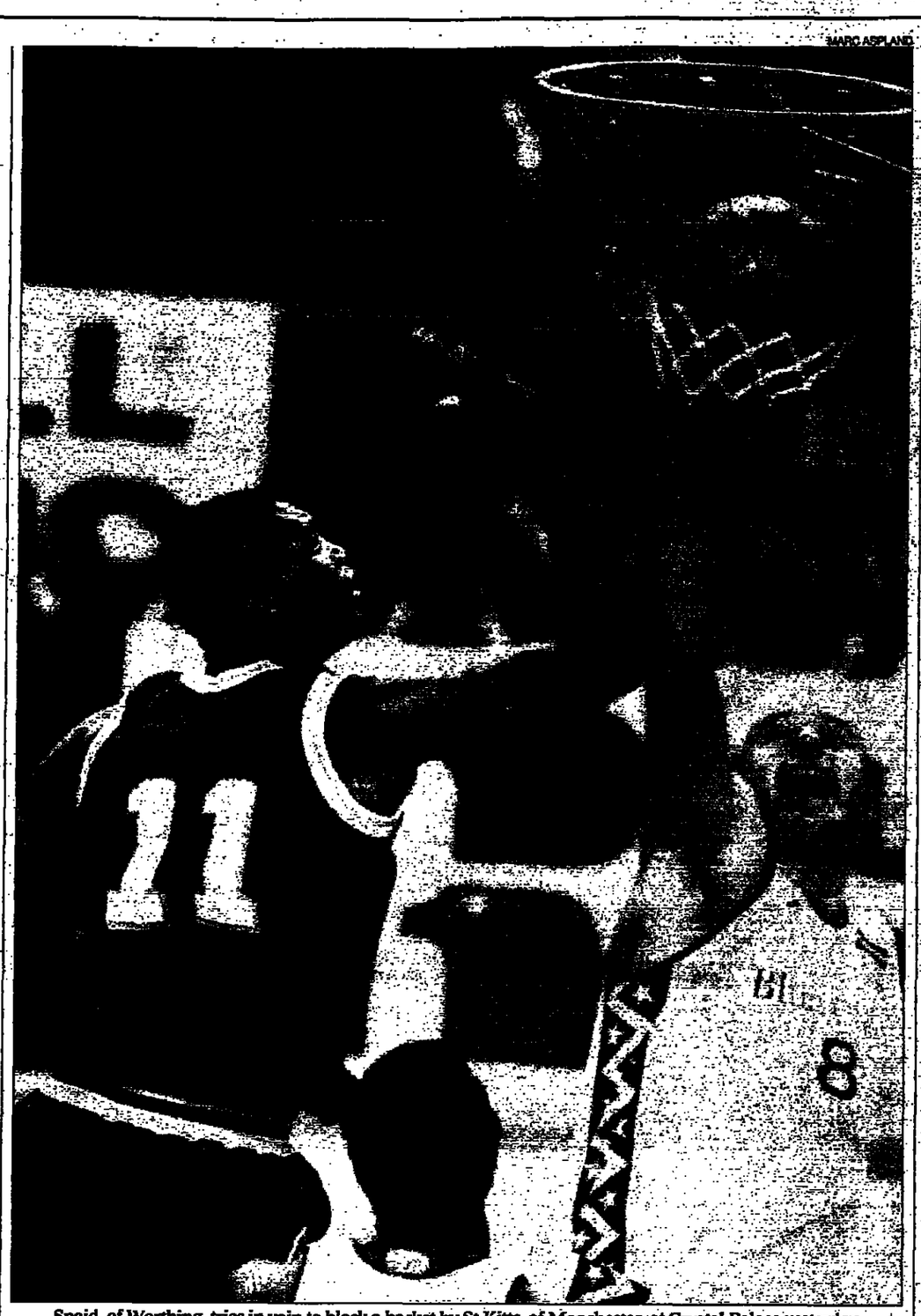
Umpires: W Diedricks and D Orchard.

Kirsten impressive

PETER Kirsten, the former Derbyshire batsman, looks set to captain the South Africa A side to play England A in a five-day match in Port Elizabeth later this month after scoring a superb 181 not out for Border in a Castle Cup match yesterday. He scored 181 against Eastern Province earlier in the season, having decided to open the batting for Border.

Kirsten's latest century was made in over eight hours from 400 balls and helped Border to 340 for three in reply to Northern Transvaal's 146.

Clive Eksteen, the left-arm spinner, who toured Sri Lanka last year but was left out of South Africa's party to Australia, took a career-best seven for 29 for Transvaal against Western Province. He took five wickets in 27 balls to send Western Province, the cup leaders, from 71 for one to 95 for six. Western Province were all out for 131, giving Transvaal a first-innings lead of 124: they added 132 for two at the close on the second day of the four-day match.


MARC ASPLAND

Spaid, of Worthing, tries in vain to block a basket by St Kitts, of Manchester, at Crystal Palace yesterday

Giants stride boldly into first final

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

AN OUTSTANDING combination of tight defensive play and accurate outside shooting swept the Budweiser League leaders, Manchester Giants, into the final of the World Invitation Club basketball championships for the first time at Crystal Palace last night.

Manchester, 103-90 winners of the second, all-English semi-final against Worthing Bears, will meet Brocheni Riga in the this afternoon. The Latvian champions had defeated the holders, Thames Valley Tigers, 92-89 on Saturday, coming back from adeficit of 43-41 at half-time.

There was no such successful recovery for Worthing, though they threatened one midway through the second half when they reduced arrears of 17 points to five. The absence of their 6ft 9in American forward, Herman Harried, who was allowed to go home for an extended Christmas break, eventually proved to be too tough a handicap.

Harried had sunk 27 points and collected 14 rebounds in the Budweiser League fixture between the clubs three months ago when Worthing won by five points but, without him this time, the League champions were always struggling to match Manchester's superiority inside.

Finding little success against Manchester's well-organised man-for-man marking, Worthing were forced to resort to shooting over the top of Manchester's tall defence. Colin Irish and Mike Spaid kept them in contention with two three-pointers apiece midway through the first half, Spaid adding to an earlier one.

The ploy might have succeeded but for Manchester's prompt reply, which was three more three-pointers of their own, one from the unusual source of Trevor Gordon. The others came from Chris Fite, whose stirring contribution at the other end of the court alongside Gordon ultimately proved decisive.

Gordon and Kevin St Kitts hit Worthing with dunks shortly before the interval. Irish replied with a basket that made the half-time score 59-47 in Manchester's favour, an advantage that was extended on the resumption with a jump shot by Joe Hillman, their excellent American guard. The lead had stretched to 17 points, thanks to Panjie Granger, Gordon and Danny Craven, before Worthing's revival began with 13 minutes remaining.

Irish and Cleave Lewis inspired the recovery in a sequence of 18-6 that looked like sparking a frantic finish. Manchester's shooting had been unerringly accurate but now the shots that had plopped in bounced around the rim, and usually out, until Hillman and Gordon regained their nerve to calm their team-mates down with some crucial baskets. Worthing's momentum was lost and Manchester ran away with it after that.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: Thames Valley Tigers 88 (Lloyd 30, Scarlebury 22, Holley 16), Broconi Riga (Latvia) 92 (Zeikins 30, Gadaicher 18, Balastaks 16); Worthing 90 (Irish 28, Lewis 20, Cunningham 19), Manchester 103 (Hillman 27, Gordon 26, Fite 19).

Douglas in form for England recall

DESMOND Douglas, the English national table tennis champion a record 11 times, scored crushing victories over members of the Japanese touring team to take the British League champions, BFL Grove, to the final of the Cleveland 5-Star Open yesterday and further fuel speculation that he will make a return to international competition at the age of 38 in the European championships in March (Richard Eaton writes).

These take place in Douglas's home city of Birmingham and it is an open secret that Donald Parker, the England manager, would like to have him in his squad. The evergreen Douglas beat Yugi Maekawa to 21-11, 21-9 and earlier saved two game points against the vicious and erratic hitting of the teenager Kimiro Nakamura to win 21-13, 25-23. His win helped BFL Grove to a 3-1 semi-final victory over a Japan B team that earlier outplayed an England team of Alex Perry and Jonathan Taylor 3-1.

Hammond's dry run

CYCLING: Roger Hammond, the British junior world cyclo-cross champion in 1992, won the Crabwood 14-mile event at Southampton on Saturday, finishing 55 seconds ahead of Barrie Clarke, the Raleigh professional. The race was over the circuit to be used for next Sunday's national final. "I wanted to have another look at the terrain: the course is difficult, deeply rutted and also made dangerous by protruding tree roots," he said yesterday.

But he will be on the start line as the result, together with previous performances this season, will determine the five riders to represent Britain in the world championship in Belgium at the end of the month. In his first race as a senior, Zachary Carr won the CC Breckland ten-mile time-trial near Wymondham, Norfolk, improving the record to 22min 09sec.

Azharuddin retained

CRICKET: The India selectors have retained Mohammad Azharuddin as captain for the series against Sri Lanka. The team for the three Test matches and three one-day internationals will be named on Thursday. A 16-man Sri Lankan squad, led by Arjuna Ranatunga, is to tour India from January 13 until February 20. After a disastrous tour of South Africa that led to calls for his dismissal, Azharuddin led India to victory over West Indies in the final of the four-nation Hero Cup tournament in November, a 3-0 whitewash against England and Test victories over Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka.

Fahey takes first leg

REAL TENNIS: Robert Fahey, of Australia, clinched the first leg of the world championship eliminator 7-4 overall when he beat the British No 1, Julian Snow, 2-1 in Tasmania. Fahey, ranked No.1 in the world, was leading 5-3 after the first two days' play on his home court in Hobart. He started strongly but in the second set, Snow took control. Then Fahey raised his game, forcing errors from Snow and cruising through 6-2 to the delight of the packed gallery. His victory means that he needs to win just five sets in the second leg of the best-of-13-set eliminator at Queen's Club, London, in three weeks.

Good start to tour

RIFLE SHOOTING: The Fairfield Great Britain rifle team won the first match of its New Zealand and Australia tour at Trentham, New Zealand, yesterday despite winds gusting at up to 40 miles an hour. Average scores were about 48 out of 50 but Britain had a lead of seven points after 300 yards, rising to 18 at 600 yards, 30 at 900, with an eventual win of 32 points over New Zealand after the 1,000 yards range. Andrew Lothian, of Surrey, despite being out of mainstream shooting while working as an airline pilot in Singapore, made the top individual score of 190.19, a shade better than his Surrey colleague, Andy Chown, on 190.16.

Leeves goes out

SQUASH: The SRA British junior open championships, running for the first time in 62 years as a combined event at Lambs Club, London, are already producing more surprises in the girls' tournaments than among the better recognised boys. Donia Leeves, of Sussex, the third seed, went out 9-4, 9-0, 9-6 in 24 minutes to Tegwen Malik, of Wales, in the under-19 championship. The boys' under-19 tournament for the Drysdale Cup has also lost a seeded player. Nathan Dugan, of Buckinghamshire. Domestic hopes remain with Paul Hargraves, of Derbyshire, Adam Toes, of Yorkshire, and Chris Tomlinson, of Kent.

FOR THE RECORD

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Friday: Minnesota Vikings 14 Washington Redskins 9.

COLLEGE BOWLS: Independence: Virginia Tech 45 Indiana 20. Gator: Alabama 24 North Carolina 10. Peach: Clemson 14 Kentucky 13. Alamo: California 37 Iowa 3. Cotton: Notre Dame 24 Texas A&M 21. Citrus: Penn State 31 Tennessee 13. Fiesta: Arizona 29 Miami 0. Hall of Fame: Michigan 42 North Carolina State 7. Carquest: Boston College 31 Virginia 13. Heritage: Southern 11 South Carolina State 0. Sugar: Florida 41 West Virginia 7. Rose: Wisconsin 21 UCLA 16. Orange: Florida State 18 Nebraska 16

CRESTA RUN

THE FAIRCHILDS MacCARTHY CUP: 1, R Lycett-Green (GB) 123.54 sec; 2, J Lucas (GB) 123.79; 3, D Liversedge (GB) 124.56

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Brisbane: Queensland 245 and 339-6 dec (M Love 138, M Hayden 121 not out); Tasmania 190 (S Young 55, MKasprowicz 4-59) and 43-3 (J Wallace). New South Wales 395-9 dec (M Bevan 103, S Waugh 73, N Maxwell 61, R Davison 56; S George 5-102) and 239-4 (Bevan 89); South Australia 465-8 dec (G Blewett 93, P Nobes 76).

CASTLE CUP: Second day: Cape Town: Transvaal 255 (B White 108; E Simons 4-41) and 132-2 (M Yachad 50 not out). Western Province 131 (C Eksteen 7-29). Port Elizabeth: Orange Free State 305 (F Stephenson 53, K Venter 55, C van Zyl 51). Eastern Province 151-4. East London: Northern Transvaal 146. Border 340-3 (Kirsten 181 not out, A Lawson 83).

TOUR MATCH: Penarth: England U-19 210 and 213-6 dec (G Butcher 52); Kalutara CA 213 and 89-8 (D Law 3-10). Drawn.

CYCLING

TIME TRIALS: Leeds Wellington CC (Tadcaster, 10 miles): R Kyrgiamen (VC York) 22min 7sec. CC Breckland (Wymondham, Norfolk, 10 miles): Z Carr (VC Norwich) 22:09 (event record). Team: CC Breckland 1:12:28. Southborough and District Wheelers (Bethersden, Kent, 10 miles): B Taylor (Bournemouth Arrow), 23:24. Team: Southborough and District 1:16:54. Wrekinsport CC (Wellington, Shropshire, 10 miles). H Roberts (Mid-Shropshire Wheelers) 23:28. Cestria CC (Chester-le-Street, 10 miles): H Walker (GS Metro) 24:14. Banbridge CC (Dromore, Co Down, 10 miles): D McCann (Phoenix CC) 22:55. CC Cardiff (Bonvilston, 8.8 miles): C Wallace (Hirwaun Wheelers) 19:32.

CYCLO-CROSS: South Western RC (Addington Hills, near Croydon, 15.5 miles): B Clarke (Team Raleigh) 1:04:00. KM Race Team (Heather, Leicestershire, 11 miles): G Coltman (Team Raleigh) 46:31. Wolverhampton Wheelers (Aldersley Stadium, 10 miles): G Foord (Scott Europe) 58:49. Middleton CC (Rochdale, 12 miles): K Duckworth (Den CC), 56:20. Colchester Rovers (Webley, 10 miles). C Thompson (CC Romford) 58:28. Portsmouth North End CC (Netley, 10 miles): P Rice (Army CU) 53:41. Deighton Wheelers (Rother Valley Country Park, Sheffield, 12 miles): R Thackray (Bradford Olympic RC) 59:35. North Eastern CCA (Consett, Co Durham, 10 miles): P Cook (Houghton CC) 1:09:00. Crabwood CC (Southampton, 12 miles): R Hammond (VC Hammond) 1:01:29. Coalville Wheelers (Grittydam, Leicestershire, 12 miles). G Foord (Scott Europe) 52:55

DARTS

FRIMLEY GREEN: Embassy World Championship: First round: B George (Eng) bt R Stewart (Aus) 3-0; N Gedney (Eng) bt S Beaton (Eng) 3-2; K Kenny (Eng) bt K Palmer (Eng) 3-2; M Phillips (Wales) bt R Herbert (Wales) 3-2; B Taylor (Scot) bt T Payne (US) 3-0; M Adams (Eng) bt P Skau (Den) 3-0; L Laurens (Bel) bt E Burden (Wales) 3-0; M Carls (Swe) bt W Weening (Aus) 3-2.

PURFLEET: Skol world championship: Semi-finals: D Priestley (Mexborough) bt P Evison (Hayes) 5-3; P Taylor (Stoke) bt S Brown (US) 5-0. Third place play-off: Brown bt Evison 5-1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Winnipeg 2 St Louis 1; Quebec 5 Pittsburgh 4; Los Angeles 4 Detroit 4; Buffalo 4 New York Rangers 1; Montreal 5 Calgary 2; Philadelphia 4 Boston 3; Dallas 5 Chicago 2. San Jose 3 Vancouver 2. Saturday: Florida 4 Anaheim 2; Hartford 4 New York Islanders 3, Washington 8 Tampa Bay 5 (OT); New Jersey 7 Ottawa 1; Los Angeles 7 Toronto 4.

MOTOR RALLYING

PARIS-DAKAR RALLY: Special stage number 6 (Agadir to Massa, 84 km): 1, H Purnell (Fr), Citroen ZX, 55min 35sec; 2, J-P Fontenay (Fr), Mitsubishi, 35 seconds behind; 3, P Lartigue (Fr), Citroen ZX, 1:08. 4, K Shinozuka (Japan), Mitsubishi, 1:22; 5, E Weber (Ger), Mitsubishi, 2:00. Special stage number 7 (Massa to Tan-Tan, 255 km): 1, Lartigue ZX 2hr 54min 14sec; 2, Shinozuka 01:22; 3, Fontenay 04:31; 4, Wambergue 05:49; 5, E Weber (Ger), Mitsubishi, 05:51. Overall: 1, Lartigue 6hr 19min 24sec; 2, Shinozuka 15min 35sec behind; 3, Fontenay 17:08, 4, Weber 18:57, 5, Audol 20:40.

REAL TENNIS

HOBART, Tasmania: World championship eliminator: First leg, third day: R Fahey (Aus) bt J Snow (GB) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2 (first day Fahey beat Snow 6-4, 6-3, 6-5, 6-1; second day Fahey lost to Snow 6-1, 4-6, 4-6, 3-6). Fahey wins first leg 7-4 overall.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy

Semi-final

Bradford N	10	Castleford	23

Bradford Northern: Tries: Kebbie 2. Goal: Fox. Castleford: Tries: Russell, Ford, Steadman Goals: Crooks 3. Drop: Crooks.

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Halifax	12	Leeds	18

Halifax: Tries: Bentley, Preston. Goals: Schuster 2, Leeds: Tries: Cummins 2, Hanley, Mercer Goals: Holroyd

Salford	23	Leigh	10

Salford: Tries: Ford, Forber, Williams, Burgess. Goals: Blakeley 3. Drop: Gregory. Leigh: Tries: Cheetham, Hanger. Goal: Davies.

Sheffield	30	Hull KR	17

Sheffield Eagles: Tries: Jackson 2, Carr, Powell, Stott. Goals: Aston 5. Hull Kingston Rovers: Tries: Hallas/hi, Parker, Sodje. Goals: P Fletcher 2. Drops: Chatfield.

St Helens	24	Widnes	16

St Helens: Tries: Joynt, Lyon, Nicole. Goals: Loughlin 3, Prescott 2. Drops: Neil, O'Donnell. Widnes: Tries: Farrello, M Sarsfield. Goals: Goulding 2, Tyrer 2.

Wakefield	10	Featherstone	24

Wakefield Trinity: Tries: Conway, Mason. Goal: Paul. Featherstone Rovers: Tries: Gibson 3, Pearson, Rippitt. Goals: Pearson 2.

Warrington	6	Wigan	8

Warrington: Try: Forster. Goal: Davies. Wigan: Try: Offiah. Goals: Botica 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	14	12	0	2	415	213	24
Warrington	16	12	0	4	324	215	24
Bradford	13	11	0	2	359	288	22
St Helens	16	10	1	5	388	261	21
Halifax	16	9	2	5	396	294	20
Castleford	14	9	1	4	361	187	19
Featherstone	16	8	1	7	350	352	17
Leeds	15	7	1	7	316	276	15
Sheffield	16	7	1	8	330	398	15
Widnes	15	7	0	8	257	294	14
Salford	16	7	0	9	277	345	14
Hull	14	5	2	7	301	228	12
Hull KR	15	5	0	10	211	259	10
Oldham	15	4	0	11	273	288	8
Wakefield	16	4	0	12	200	348	8
Leigh	16	0	1	15	189	446	1

Second division

Huddersfield	18	Doncaster	34

Yesterday

Bramley	8	Batley	32
Carlisle	12	Whitehaven	34
Rochdale	16	London Crus	8
Ryedale York	11	Keighley	4
Workington	50	Barrow	6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Workington	16	12	1	3	383	171	25
Huddersfield	15	12	0	3	371	219	24
London Crus	15	10	1	4	395	286	21
Ryedale York	15	9	1	5	320	250	19
Keighley	13	9	0	4	338	189	18
Whitehaven	16	7	4	5	305	219	18
Batley	14	9	0	5	274	243	18
Doncaster	14	9	0	5	328	312	18
Dewsbury	13	8	1	4	404	193	17
Barrow	15	8	0	7	319	356	16
Rochdale	14	6	0	8	293	274	12
Carlisle	14	5	0	9	264	380	10
Swinton	14	4	0	10	257	368	8
Hunslet	14	2	0	12	194	354	4
Bramley	15	1	0	14	155	399	2
Highfield	15	1	0	14	172	602	2

Postponed: Dewsbury v Hunslet, Highfield v Swinton.

RUGBY UNION

IRISH TRIAL: Whites 25, Blues 14.

CLUB MATCHES: Berry Hill 28 Hereford 10; Birmingham/Solihull 45 Bromsgrove 5; Bristol 39 Clifton 14; Fylde 36 Blackburn 18; Langholm 7 Carlisle 3; London Welsh 40 Bedford 10; Moseley 3 Gloucester 20; Newcastle/ans 3 Newcastle Gosforth 68; Stourbridge 9 Cheltenham 13; Wakefield 57 Leeds 14; Weston-super-Mare 26 Clevedon 15. Other matches cancelled. Yesterday: Birkenhead Park 23, New Brighton 16.

SHOOTING

TRENTHAM: New Zealand Champion-ships (300, 600, 900 and 1,000 yards): 1, Great Britain 2,917 222; 2, New Zealand 2,885.193. 3, Australia 2,805.167.

SWIMMING

HONG KONG: World Cup round I: Men: 50m freestyle: 1, R Majiulis (Lith) 21.80sec; 2, A Popov (Russia) 21.84, 3, Hu Bin (China) 21.96. British: 4, M Foster 22.11. 100m freestyle: 1, A Popov (Russ) 47.83sec (world record); 2, R Majiulis (Lith) 48.57. 200m freestyle: 1, V Pyshenko (Russ) 1mn 45.65sec; 2, A Holmertz (Swe) 1.46.08; 3, E Sadovy (Russ) 1:46.88. 400m freestyle: 1, E Sadovy (Russ) 3:46.58; 2, P Palmer (GB) 3:46.77; 3, D Kowalski (Aus) 3:47.48. 800m freestyle: 1, D Kowalski (Aus) 7:43.33; 2, E Sadovy (Russ) 7:50.43; 3, Bang Seung-Hoon (S Kor) 7:50.78. Britain's 4, P Palmer 7:51.01. 50m backstroke: 1, M Harris (GB) 25.08sec (British record); 2, V Selkov (Russ) 25.12. 200m backstroke: 1, V Selkov (Russ) 1.53.54; 2, T Weber (Ger) 1:56.72; 3, A Ruckwood (GB) 1:57.62. Other: 4, M Harris (GB) 1:57.77. 50m breaststroke: R Dekker (Holl) 27.58, 2, Chen Jianhong (China) 27.83. 100m breaststroke: Dekker 1:00.40; 2, V Ivanov (Russ) 1:00.85; 3, A Korneev (Russ) 1.01 44. British: 6, N Gillingham 1:03.10. 200m breaststroke: 1, Gillingham 2:12.35; 2, A Korneev (Russ) 2:14.19; 3, Dekker 2:15.25. 50m butterfly: 1, M Foster (GB) 24.49; 2, D Pankratov (Russ) 24.52. 100m butterfly: 1, Pankratov 53.01; 2, L Aberto Lasra (B) 53.83. British: Foster 54.52. 200m butterfly: 1, Pankratov 1:56.17; 2, Xue Wei (China) 2:01.07; 3, Zhang Bin (China) 2:01.69; 4, Wang Chunxian (China) 2:01.92. 100m individual medley: 1, C Keller (Ger) 55.28. 200m individual medley: 1, Keller 1:58.80; 2, L Sacchi (It); 2:01.08. 400m individual medley: 1, Keller 4.12.46; 2, Sacchi 4:13.68.

Women: 50m freestyle: 1, Le Jingyi (China) 24.91; 2, L Oulesova (Rus) 25.52. 100m freestyle: 1, Le Jingyi 54.22; 2, L Johncke (Swe) 58.54. 200m freestyle: 1, Le Jingyi 1:58.79; 2, Johncke 2:00.50. 400m freestyle: 1, D Hase (Ger) 4: 07.78; 2, Jeong Won-Kyung (S Kor) 4:11 31. 800m freestyle: 1, Hase 8:25.01; 2, S Gantrell (Aus) 8:25.06; 3, Luo Ping (China) 8.30.80. 50m backstroke: 1, Xue Lei (China) 28.46. 100m backstroke: 1, N Jvanevskaya (Russ) 1:00.31; 2, A Kenneay (Aus), 1:01.58. 200m backstroke: 1, E Overton (Aus) 2:06.85; 2, L Yigarani (S) 2:08.96. 50m breaststroke: 1, Liao Xia 31.86; 2, Dai Guohong (China) 31.90. 100m breaststroke: 1, Dai Guohong 1:07.61; 2, Lu Di (China) 1:08.79. 200m breaststroke: 1, Dai Guohong 2mn 24.43sec; 2, Lu Di 2:26.81. 50m butterfly: 1, Kennedy 26.98; 2, Le Jingyie (China) 27.37. 100m butterfly: 1, Liu Limin (China) 59.09; 2, Kennedy (Aus) 59.88. 200m butterfly: 1, M Jacobsen (Den) 2:08.83; 2, Liu Limin 2:08.83. 100m individual medley: 1, Overton 1:02.62; 2, Lin Li (China) 1:03.05 200m individual medley: 1, Overton 2:11.18; 2, Dai Guohong 2.11.58. 400m individual medley: 1, Overton 4.37.84; 2, D Shmelva (Russ) 4:39.82.

TENNIS

TELFORD: Midland Bank national 16 and under championships: Singles: Girls: Quarter-finals: J Choudhury (Cambs) bt R Dunbar (Dorset) 2-6, 6-1, 6-0, J Osman (Sussex) bt S Turner (Sussex) 6-0, 6-3; A Tordoff (Kent) bt T Callow (Middx) 6-3, 6-4; F Lishman (Northumberland) bt T Blackburn (Somerset) 6-4, 6-2. Semi-finals: Osman bt Choudhury 6-2, 7-5; Lishman bt Tordoff 7-5, 6-2. Boys: Quarter-finals: S Clark (Warwickshire) bt A Perma (Hertfordshire) 6-4, 6-4; M Glorvin (Avon) bt S Pender (Cornwall) 6-2, 6-7, 6-2, W Sawyer (Norfolk) bt I Batss (Chants &IOW) 7-5, 6-4; J Monk (Sussex) bt B Heron (Hants &IOW) 6-3, 6-7, 7-5. Semi-finals: Sawyer bt Clark 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; Gorvin bt J Monk 7-5, 6-2.

3.0 kick-off unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Arsenal v QPR

Blackburn v Wimbledon (all ticket)

Chelsea v Everton

Coventry v Swindon (7.45)

Leeds v Aston Villa (8.0)

Manchester City v Ipswich

Sheffield Wed v Tottenham

West Ham v Sheffield Utd

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Birmingham v Oxford Utd

Bristol City v Stoke

Charlton v West Bromwich

Crystal Palace v Peterborough

Derby County v Tranmere

Middlesbrough v Grimsby

Notts County v Southend

Portsmouth v Leicester

Sunderland v Barnsley

Watford v Notts Forest

Wolverhampton v Bolton

Second division

Barnet v Exeter

Blackpool v Bristol Rovers

Brentford v Stockport

Cambridge Utd v Fulham

Huddersfield v Bournemouth

Hull v Burnley

Plymouth v Brighton

Port Vale v Bradford (7.45)

Reading v York

Rotherham v Cardiff

Wrexham v Leyton Orient

Third division

Carlisle v Torquay

Chester v Lincoln

Doncaster v Gillingham

Mansfield v Chesterfield (12.0)

Northampton v Crewe

Scarborough v Darlington

Scunthorpe v Walsall

Shrewsbury v Colchester

Wycombe v Hereford

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bath v Yeovil

Dover v Dagenham and R'bridge

Gateshead v Stafybridge

Macclesfield v Altrincham

Merthyr v Telford

Slough v Welling

Southport v Northwich

Stafford v Bromsgrove

Witton v Runcorn

Woking v Kettering

Scottish League

First division

St Mirren v Falkirk (2.0)

SECOND DIVISION: Postponed: Cowdenbeath v Forfar.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Postponed: First round replay: Huntly v Albion.

ABACUS LEAGUE: First division: Pontypridd v Aberaman.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Barrow v Winsford; Boston v Colwyn Bay; Droylsden v Fleetwood; Emley v Bridlington Town; Frickley v Matlock; Gainsborough v Chorley; Horwich v Leek; Marine v Knowsley; Morecambe v Accrington; Whitley Bay v Hyde. First division: Alfreton v Bamber Bridge; Great Harwood v Eastwood; Gretna v Spennymoor; Goole v Congleton; Guiseley v Lancaster; Mossley v Ashton United; Netherfield v Carnforth; Radcliffe v Farsley Celtic; Warrington v Workington; Workington v Harrogate.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Connah's Quay v Newtown; Conwy v Porthmadog; Cwmbran v Aberystwyth; Ebbw Vale v Briton Ferry; Holywell v Flint Town Utd; Inter Cardiff v Haverfordwest; Maesteg Park v Afan Ucta; Mold v Llanearnfrad.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesiore United v Burton Albion (7.30); Hastings v Gloucester; Cambridge City v Chelmsford (11.0); Chelsfield v Dorchester; Crawley v Tonbridge; Grasley v Nuneaton (7.30); Hednesford v Solihull (7.30); Moor Green v Corby; Stillingbourne v Farnborough (12.0); Worcester v Halesowen Town (7.30). Midland division: Bedworth v Leicester United (7.30); Bedgnorth v Sutton Coldfield; Evesham v Dudley; Hinckley Town v Armitage; King's Lynn v VS Rugby; Newport AFC v Clevedon; Rushden and Diamonds v RC Warwick; Stourbridge v Forest Green (7.0); Tamworth v Grantham (7.30); Weston-super-Mare v Redditch; Yate v Bilston. Southern division: Ashford v Fisher 93; Buckingham v Bury Town; Burnham v Witney; Dunstable v Braintree; Erith and Belvedere v Canterbury; Havant v Poole (11.0); Margate v Gravesend; Newport (IoW) v Salisbury; Sudbury v Tonbridge; Wealdstone v Baldock; Weymouth v Famsham.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia v Stockton; Blyth Spartans v Durham City; Brandon v Guisborough; Eppleton CW v Consett; Ferryhill Athletic v Chester Le Street; Hebburn v Newcastle Blue Star; Murton v Northallerton; Seaham Red Star v Shildon; Tow Law v West Auckland; Whitby v Dunston FB.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Odd Down v Bristol Manor Farm; Tiverton v Taunton; Torrington v Bideford.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Kidsgrove Athletic v Newcastle Town; Penrith v Skelmersdale; Rossendale v Atherton LR; St Helens v Prescot.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clanton v Gillingham; Leyton Orient v Tottenham. Second division: Bristol City v Bristol Rovers.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Second division: Newbury v Tilbury; Lewes v Rainham. League Cup: Third round: Carshalton Athletic v Bishops Stortford; Saffron Walden v Maidenhead. Carlsberg Trophy: First round: Ting v Hemel Hempstead.

RUGBY UNION

2.30 kick-off unless stated

CIS Insurance

Divisional Championship

London and SE v South West (2.0) (at Twickenham)

Courage Clubs Championship

Third division

Blackheath v Bedford (2.0)

Rosslyn Park v Morley

Postponed: Havant v Redruth.

Fourth division

Aspatria v Sheffield

SWALEC Cup

Fourth round

Abercarn v Pyle

Caerphilly v Handy

Oakdale v Builth Wells

Heineken league

First division

Aberavon v Llanelli

Bridgend v Pontypridd

Cardiff v Cross Keys

Newbridge v Dunvant

Swansea v Neath

Second division

Glamorgan Wndrs v Penarth

Mountain Ash v Ebbw Vale

Tenby v Llanelliey

South Wales Police v Llanharan

Tredorchy v Narberth

Club matches

Askeans v Sutton and Epsom

Broughton Park v Rotherham

Dundee HSFP v Stewart's Mel FP (2.0)

Edinburgh W v West of Scotland (2.0)

Exeter v Barnstaple (3.0)

Gala v Selkirk (2.0)

Glasgow High/Kal v Melrose (2.0)

Grangemouth v Currie (2.0)

Harrogate v Bradford and Bingley

Lichfield v Huddersfield

Liverpool St Helens v Wakefield

Lydney v Nuneaton

Musselburgh v Boroughmuir (2.0)

Newcastle Gosforth v Middlesbrough

Newport v Watsonians

Northampton v Nottingham (3.0)

Orrell v Coventry

Peebles v Jed-Forest (2.0)

Pontypool v Maesteg

Preston Lodge v Haddington (2.0)

Stirling County v Kirkcaldy (2.0)

Stockton v West Hartlepool

Wasps v Saracens

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Second round

Dewsbury Celtic v Haworth (2.0)

Shaw Cross v Thatto Heath (2.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: World international club tournament, Crystal Palace.

DARTS: Embassy world championships (Frimley Green).

TABLE TENNIS: Men: England v Japan (Grantham). Women: England v Japan (Hull).

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Mortgage money rides on point of a dart



Simon Barnes finds players who possess a competitive will as hard as diamonds



Harrington is a study in concentration as he launches another dart in the Skol world championship before losing at the quarter-final stage. Photograph: Marc Aspland

The walk from Purfleet station to Aaron Paul Stone's Circus Tavern is an interesting one. Huge silver vats of some nameless, equivocal fluid dominate a blasted and quarried landscape; about a million articulated lorries stand by awaiting their duties; and amid patches of scrub and industrial detritus, endless miles of piping lie in massive piles.

You pass through the petrol station at the top of the rise, and you are there. The road to the Skol world championship for darts is not quite the walk on the côté de Guermantes; and the Circus Tavern is not quite the Faubourg St Germain.

I say this in the belief that it is important and therapeutic to get one's Essex-and-darts jokes out of the way early. "I know what people think about darts and darts players," Rod Harrington, the event's No 5 seed, said. "But other professional sportsmen respect us. That matters. They see us as fellow-professionals."

I will leave you to write your own lager-and-fags jokes. One look at the faces of the contestants tells you all. This is no afternoon jolly, no amateur lash-up. For the players, this not a side-show in life, this *is* life. It is real, it is serious, it is emphatically not a laughing matter. It is career, reputation, ambition and mortgage: darts is as intense as any other professional sport.

How could it be otherwise? You may scoff at the soft bellies some of the players possess, but you cannot throw darts for your mortgage without a competitive will as hard as diamonds. If you doubt that, I am sure Harrington will be happy to take you over a set of darts for a stake of, say, £1,000. See if you can throw to a tolerance of one sixteenth of an inch when your mortgage repayments are at stake.

"It drains you, a championship like this," Harrington said. "You cannot describe what it is like. I can't eat. I have lost half a stone in a week." Harrington plays in a shirt and tie, and looks neat, trim and fit. He is a former semi-pro footballer. He swims five miles a week, and if anyone wishes to demonstrate the legendary unfitness of darts players, Harrington will take you on at breast-stroke over a mile; he covers that distance in 40 minutes, which is as respectable an athletic feat as a sub-three-hour marathon.

Harrington won the World Masters event in 1991. He is one of the finest players in the world: one of the elite. Last year, he made a profit of £16,000. "Not bad money, is it?" he said. "If you worked on a building site."

It is for this reason that there are two darts world championships. The Skol event is run by the World Darts Council; the British Darts Organisation is running another. Both are going on at the same time. The WDC is the rebel, or breakaway group: they want to reverse the sport's devastating slide after the palmy days of the mid-Eighties, when darts was never off television. The WDC believes that the BDO has not done enough, that the way to rebuilding the shattered sport is being blocked by short-sighted and cold-footed people at the top of the BDO.

It all went wrong for darts with terrible suddenness. One minute, you saw Eric Bristow every time you turned on the telly and John Lowe got £100,000 for a single feat of superlative accuracy. Next minute it was all over. Television, which had raised darts to the heights, dashed it to the depths. Darts was gone from prime-time television.

"Why?" asked Marcus Robinson, the WDC's publicity director, a professional marketing man of startling plausibility. "Darts was still pulling audiences. It was getting more than cricket, golf, rugby union. It was simply believed that darts was getting the wrong sort of audience, with the wrong sort of socio-economic profile for advertisers. And that is a nonsense: darts gets roughly the same sort of audience as football."

The problem, obviously enough, was snobbery, both social and sporting. It cannot be denied that there is something irresistibly comic about darts. It is, or can look, like a seaside postcard burlesque of sport, as well as a bravura celebration of working-class culture.

Sportswriters turned out reams of horror about the John Lowe £100,000 story. No one wrote that archery is not a real sport, or that Bisley marksmen are not real sportsmen. Instead, they got into footling arguments as to whether or not darts was a sport or a pastime, as if there were something self-evidently more noble about kicking a bladder than throwing a missile. When you look at it objectively, which is how nobody ever looks at any sport, darts is about as pure a test of skill and nerve as sport can produce. Perfect accuracy is a fluctuating, frustrating and elusive skill: players will move into a zone of near-perfection, and as easily, slip out of it.

"I finished the set in 41 darts," Harrington said after his defeat of Eric Bristow. "That is some darts, that is. It's all about rhythm and confidence. You can be throwing brilliantly — and then you miss a couple of doubles. You let the other player in. Rhythm and confidence go. That's what happened to me in my quarter-final. [He lost 4-1 to Peter Evison]. And it crucifies you."

Robinson talks grandiosely about the way television has "disenfranchised" darts enthusiasts, bubbles about the viewing figures they are getting on satellite television — "Only football does better than darts" — and argues that the rival BDO organisation failed to believe that "there is life after the TV pull-out".

But Harrington was contemplating one of the universals of sport, the spectre of a devastating defeat: "Ask any sportsman. If you can't handle defeat, you can never win. And I tell you — this is a *hard* game."

Chasing £16,000 top prize



PHIL Taylor, left, the former Embassy world champion from Stoke, was battling for the £16,000 first prize in the final of the Skol world darts championship last night against Dennis Priestley, from Yorkshire, the No 1 seed. Taylor, 33, overwhelmed Steve Brown, the American-based Englishman from St Louis, five sets to nil in one semi-final at Purfleet and Priestley defeated Peter Evison 5-3 three in the other. Priestley was never headed by Evison.

The event is run by the World Darts Council, a breakaway group rivalling the established British Darts Organisation, which is staging the Embassy world championships at Frimley Green, Surrey.

Bobby George arrived on stage there in a floor-length gold cape, and beat Russell Stewart, of Australia, in straight sets in the first round. It was a splendid performance, George winning 3-1, 3-2, 3-0.

Whitaker travels to Barcelona confident of success

By Sydney Friskin

FOR David Whitaker, who coached Great Britain to its Olympic gold medal in hockey in 1988, the new year begins on a note of hope as he takes the British team into the four nations' tournament which starts on Thursday in Barcelona.

Whitaker, in charge of both the Great Britain and England teams, regards this tournament as the first step in preparation for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. "This is Britain's first outing and we have included a few youngsters who can stake their claim," Whitaker said. A few senior players are back in the reckoning, including Soma Singh, of Southgate, who was dropped after the World Cup in 1990.

Reviewing the opposition in Barcelona, he believes that defeating teams such as Belgium, India and Spain was the best way to get to the top. "Many of our lads have never played against India; Belgium have done exceptionally well to qualify for the next World Cup and Spain are never easy."

Looking further ahead, he explained that a Great Britain development programme was planned for the summer with the accent on the preparation of England's players for the World Cup in Sydney in November. "After all, if England win the World Cup, Britain will automatically qualify for the Olympics."

After the Champions' Trophy tournament, in Lahore, in March, Great Britain will give way to England, who will visit Holland for a match in June to be followed by matches in England, against Australia and Pakistan, in July. There will also be a match against Germany, in August, and a weekend tournament in England, in October or early November.

Commenting on the recent withdrawal of Robert Hill, the short-corner specialist, for business and personal reasons, Whitaker said: "Anyone with his capabilities is bound to be missed, particularly when he is feared by other countries, but his temporary absence gives others a chance to excel."

Europeans pursue more cup glory

GERMANY and Switzerland reached the last eight of the Hopman Cup in Perth, Australia, yesterday as Europe's grip on the annual 12-nation mixed team tennis tournament showed little sign of fading. During the event's five-year history, a non-European nation has yet to secure the title.

Germany, the defending champions, defeated South Africa 2-1 to set up a quarter-final contest with the United States. Switzerland, who are also past winners, beat Holland 3-0. The unseeded Germans, Anke Huber and Bernd Karbacher, proved too strong in the singles for the South Africans, Amanda Coetzer and Marcos Ondruska, seeded eighth.

Huber, ranked tenth in the world, saved her best tennis for the final set to outlast Coetzer before Karbacher made victory certain by defeating Ondruska.

RESULTS: First round: Australia bt Sweden 2-1 (Australian names first): Singles: N Provis bt C Lindqvist 7-6, 6-1; W Masur lost to M Pernfors 6-4, 6-4. Doubles: Provis and Masur bt Lindqvist and Pernfors 6-3, 7-5. Germany bt South Africa 2-1. Singles: A Huber bt A Coetzer 7-6, 3-6, 6-1; B Karbacher bt M Ondruska 6-4, 6-4. Doubles: Huber and Karbacher lost to Coetzer and Ondruska 6-7. Switzerland bt Holland 3-0 (Swiss names first): Singles: M Maleeva-Fragnière bt M Oremans 3-6, 6-3, 6-0; J Hlasek bt J Siemerink 4-6, 6-4, 7-5. Doubles: Maleeva-Fragnière and Hlasek bt Oremans and Siemerink 6-6

☐ Steve Clark and Jasmine Choudhury, the top seeds, were beaten in the semi-finals of the Midland Bank National 16 and Under championships at Telford yesterday. Clark lost to Warren Sawyer 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 and Jheni Osman stunned Choudhury 6-2, 7-5.

Britons earn gold

BRITISH swimmers started 1994 with three victories at the first of seven World Cup events of the winter season, in Hong Kong, on New Year's Day (Craig Lord writes).

Nick Gillingham, of Birmingham, won the 200 metres breaststroke, for which he is world short-course champion, in 2min 12.35sec. Martin Harris, of Waltham Forest, won the 50 metres backstroke in a British record of 25.08sec, and Mark Foster, of Barnet, took the 50 metres butterfly in 24.49sec.

However, all three finished out of the top three in other distances and will have to improve if their title aspirations are to be fulfilled; points are collated for two distances, out of three, per stroke. Foster is World Cup champion at 50 metres freestyle, but he finished fourth in that race yesterday and there are no titles for individual races this year, only categories.

Aleksandr Popov, the Olympic champion, from Russia, marked the event with a world short-course (25-metre pool) record of 47.83sec in the 100 metres freestyle. For Foster to win the sprint freestyle group, he would have to beat Popov in the 100 metres. The series continues in Peking on Wednesday and Thursday before moving to Europe in March.

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	50	80	fair	varied	poor	rain	0 1/1
(Upper slopes good with fresh snow, lower patchy)							
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	30	90	good	powder	fair	cloud	1 1/1
(Fresh snow but heavy below 1,200 metres)							
Mayrhofen	0	50	fair	varied	closed	cloud	-2 1/1
(Good skiing despite high season crowds)							
Obergurgl	50	80	good	powder	good	cloud	-3 2/1
(Piste conditions very good after 18 hours of snow)							
FRANCE							
Flaine	120	260	good	powder	good	snow	-2 2/1
(Heavy snowfalls limiting skiing)							
Megève	80	150	fair	heavy	slushy	rain	0 2/1
(Snowfall has turned to rain)							
S Chevalier	70	175	good	powder	good	snow	-4 2/1
(Excellent powder skiing everywhere)							
Tignes	140	320	good	powder	good	snow	-5 2/1
(Still snowing with high winds at altitude)							
Val Thorens	140	340	good	powder	good	snow	-3 2/1
(Yet more snow all day; powder a little heavier)							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	70	70	good	powder	good	cloud	-5 1/1
(All pistes in good condition with fresh powder)							
Mürren	55	120	slushy	heavy	slushy	thaw	4 1/1
(Soggy skiing with warmer weather)							
Verbier	90	250	good	powder	good	snow	-2 2/1
(Plenty of fresh snow and more falling)							
Wengen	30	50	fair	heavy	fair	rain	4 1/1
(Very strong winds have closed many lifts)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L = lower slopes; U = upper; art = artificial

Radcliffe gives promoters best value

By David Powell
Athletics Correspondent

AT ONE-FIFTH of the cost to the race promoters, compared with the £10,000 Zola Pieterse was paid to run, Paula Radcliffe proved easily the best value for money in the County Durham international cross-country meeting at Beamish on Saturday. If Pieterse can be beaten, what chance the Briton winning a medal at the world championships this winter?

Radcliffe, a 20-year-old student at Loughborough University, has set as her target a place in the top ten, having finished eighteenth last season. That was in her first year out of the junior ranks, but the blonde from Bedford is determined that, sooner or later, she will add the senior world title to the under-20 one she took in 1992.

"My long-term aim is to win the world cross-country championship but it probably will not be this year," Radcliffe said. Pieterse, who finished second on Saturday, 50 metres behind Radcliffe, offered the view of a double world champion of the Eighties. "If she keeps on like that I am sure Paula will have a good chance of winning the world title," Pieterse said. She won her world gold medals for England before returning to her native South Africa.

For the moment, Radcliffe remains the last athlete to beat the all-conquering Wang Junxia in an international championship race. When Radcliffe won her world junior title over the snow-covered Franklin Park course in Boston 22 months ago, Wang was second. Wang has since won world junior and senior 10,000 metres titles, set a world record for the distance, and won the World Cup marathon.

By comparison, Radcliffe's development has been slow, but not insignificant. In finishing seventeenth in the 3,000 metres at the world championships in Stuttgart last summer, she improved to 8min 40.40sec. Radcliffe, having picked off Pieterse with her fearless front-running on Saturday, now has in her sights Pieterse's British 3,000 metres record.

Fitting in training, racing and weekly commuting between Loughborough and Bedford with her studies makes for a busy schedule. "She is one of the most ruthless time managers I know," Peter Radcliffe, her father, said. She wasted none on Saturday, building a 20 metres lead by halfway. From the shoulders down she is an elegant runner but her bobbing head has brought complaints from British officials that it is inefficient, a waste of energy and should be corrected.

Michael Johnson, the 400 metres world champion, used to be criticised about his low knee action but Clyde Hart, his coach, would say: "Maybe some people are spending too much time going up and down and not enough going forward." Radcliffe says of her head: "To worry about it would probably use up more energy."

With snow on the course in places, she showed, as she had in Boston, that it presents no problem to her. Pieterse also ran well, considering she had only three days' notice to compete and had come from a South African summer. So cold was it at Beamish that Olga Bondarenko, who was third, came from Russia with gloves. Both Radcliffe and Pieterse bared their hands.

Haile Gebresilasie, from Ethiopia, won the men's race, his action beautifully smooth from head to toe. Gebresilasie is steadily becoming the Wang of men's 10,000 metres running. Like Wang, he is aged 20 and is the world junior and senior champion. After beating a strong British field by 60 metres, he said he would try for the 10,000 metres world record this summer; that or the 5,000 metres, or both.

"The Chinese ladies have trained hard and simply broken the records," Gebresilasie said. "I will train hard and try to do the same." He is, like his compatriate, Derartu Tulu, the Olympic women's 10,000 metres champion, from a family of ten children and comes from the same region, the Arusi province.

Steve Tunstall, winner of the British trials for the world championships last year, was second while Eamonn Martin was eighteenth. Martin has been on high training mileage and was satisfied that, once the sharpening has been done, he will be ready for the world championships in Budapest on March 26.

He wants to defend his NutraSweet London Marathon title on April 17 but his participation is not certain. The appearance fee he has been offered is not to his satisfaction and he may miss London if the offer is not increased.



PHIL COLE/ALLSPORT

Radcliffe's improvement was confirmed by the way she beat Pieterse

RESULTS

MEN: International 8km: 1, H Gebresilasse (Eth) 26min 27sec; 2, S Tunstall (GB) 26 38; 3, R Waiem (Bel) 26 40; 4, A Pearson (GB) 26 41; 5, D Lewis (GB) 26 44. Middle distance 3.6km: 1, J Maycock (GB) 9:58; 2, A Keith (GB) 10'02, 3, P Larkins (GB) 10 06.
WOMEN: International 5km: 1, P Radcliffe (GB) 15:37; 2, Z Pieterse (SA) 15:45; 3, O Bondarenko (Russ) 15.58; 4, A Wyeth (GB) 16.25. 5, L Robinson (GB) 16:27.

THE TIMES
SNOW SERVICE

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Calls cost 36p (cheap) 48p (other times) per minute

Warrington sunk by moment of madness

Warrington 6
Wigan 8

By Christopher Irvine

A SEEMINGLY innocuous dropped pass in the fourth minute of injury-time changed not only the outcome of this match, but possibly the course of the Stones Bitter rugby league championship.

What followed was the worst example of stupidity, Brian Johnson, the Warrington coach, said he had witnessed by his players, which propelled Wigan to the top of the first division above his side for the second time in eight days.

The ball, spilled by Mike Gregory, the Warrington second-row forward, was seized by Phil Clarke. Controversy arose, as the knee of Paul Cullen met the Wigan loose forward as he followed up and Russell Smith, from Castleford, had no hesitation in awarding the penalty.


Botica: secures win

With 20 seconds remaining on the referee's watch, Frano Botica, who had missed with three of four previous attempts, was eyeing up a tricky shot from 35 yards with some scepticism. His task was made simple following a further penalty for dissent against Jonathan Davies, after he had queried the original decision. The successful kick was the last of a riveting encounter.

As they do most years, Wigan rang in the new with a victory that could make it extremely difficult for them to be dislodged. Although they are level on points, Warrington have played two games more.

With luck like yesterday, 1994 could be another ominous one for the rest. Wigan have started the year with grim omens about Australia's new Winfield Cup contingent snapping up more of their best players, but they remain a side with the strongest resources.

This win was another tribute to their durability. The pity was that Warrington had mounted a tremendous rearguard action, only to ruin it by a moment of madness.

Wigan, following a spectacular dismissal of St Helens at Christmas, were not at the top of their game. In the first half, attempted dropped goals by Dermott Offiah and Connolly, no specialist at the art, smacked, indeed, of desperation.

In their one move of real fluency, in the fifth minute, the half backs, Panapa and Botica, worked a lovely dummy move and Connolly's incisiveness in the centre sent Offiah clear of Forster on the left wing. Although he missed his first two kicks, Botica was successful third time and the visitors appeared reasonably assured.

However, the tackling of Cullen, Shelford and Penny, to prevent a long range try by Mather, frustrated Wigan and turned the game on its head. Outside the Wilderspool ground, the 3,500 locked out of the 11,379 full house could only hear the roars as Warrington piled on the pressure.

Mather was caught off-side, shortly before being taken off on a stretcher with a back injury, and Davies was grateful for a simply two points. Then, 12 minutes from normal time after the ball had been put to ground three times on the first tackle, Mackey ran wide and support by Gregory and Penny supplied Forster with the try. Davies drifted his conversion across the posts.

SCORERS: Warrington: Try: Forster. Goal: Davies. Wigan: Try: Offiah. Goals: Botica (2).
WARRINGTON: L Penny; M Forster, A Bateman, J Davies, R Myler; K Ellis, G Mackey; C Teitzel, J Thursfield, R Phillips (sub: M Hilton, 24min), P Cullen, M Gregory, K Shelford.
WIGAN: J Lydon (sub: D Betts, 46); J Robinson, B Mather (sub: Lydon, 76), G Connolly, M Offiah; S Panapa, F Botica, K Skerrett, M Dermott (sub: M Cassidy, 57), A Platt, N Cowie (sub. Dermott, 76), A Farrell, P Clarke.
Referee: R Smith.

Castleford benefit from Joyner rule

Bradford Northern........ 10
Castleford.................... 23

By Christopher Irvine

FROM being the club's greatest servant to its master this season, John Joyner has led Castleford to the club's first Regal Trophy cup final in 17 years and a meeting on January 22 with Salford or Wigan, who meet this Saturday, at Headingley.

Victory over a stunned Bradford Northern was the epitome of Joyner's free-spirited playing career: defending solidly, but letting convention and caution go hang in attack. Unless they strike the right balance, Castleford can be the most infuriating side to watch, but at Odsal on Saturday, it was marvellously achieved.

Those who foresaw problems following the departure of Darryl van de Velde, are doffing their hat to Joyner, who has taken the disciplined best of his Austrialian predecessor and mixed it with the enterprise and pride he was renowned for on the field. After five impressive months, Joyner is being talked of as a future Great Britain coach, and after yet another outstanding display at prop forward Lee Crooks, could yet justify an international recall.

Regrettably, Crooks's head-butting of Paul Newlove, for which he should have been sin-binned at least, was as influential in defusing Bradford's main strike weapon, as his subtle passes in the tackle were in priming the Castleford attack. But his slide-rule kick for Tony Smith to pounce in the in-goal area, three from four goal attempts and a dropped goal as Bradford threatened a revival in the second half, were the telling differences.

SCORERS: Bradford Northern: Tries: Kebble (2). Penalty: Fox. Castleford: Tries: Russell, Smith, Ford, Steadman. Goals: Crooks (3). Dropped goal: Crooks.
BRADFORD NORTHERN: D Watson; G Cordle, S McGowan, P Newlove; B Kebie; N Summers, D Fox; D Hobbs (sub: P Grayshon, 40min), T Clark (P Medley, 40), J Hamer, R Powell, P Dixon, D Heron.
CASTLEFORD: G Steadman; St J Ellis, T Smith, G Anderson, S Middleton; T Kemp, M Ford; L Crooks, R Russell, M Ketteridge (sub: D Sampson, 74), T Morrison, I Smales (sub: A Hay, 45), T Nikau.
Referee: J Connolly (Wigan).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *32*

DISBALASS
(b) To free from ballast or burden, to disburden, from the negative *dis-* + *balass* a 16th-century form of the verb *to ballast*: "Man, having disburdened and disbalassed himselfe of his provocative superfluous Sperme to fetch his breath the better."

ENCEUR
(c) A disease of the chest affecting horses and oxen, ?, presumably from the French phrase *en coeur* in the heart: "The enceur doth bring present death to horses, and no remedy hath yet been discovered by the horse leeches."

ALGOLOGIST
(a) One who prosecutes the scientific study of algae or seaweeds, a student of algology, from the Latin *alga* seaweed + the Greek *logos* a word *legein* to speak: "Mock not Professor Rackweed is one of the most celebrated algologists of Europe."

BIFID
(c) Divided into two parts by a deep cleft or notch, from the Latin *bi-* two + *fid-* the stem of *findere* to split or cleave: "I should be pleased to let you help with the washing-up, George, except that you have this perverse passion to redesign my Crown Derby in an impractical and displeasingly bifid style."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxe4! Rxe4 (1 ... fxe4 is met the same way)
2 Qg5! Qxg5 3 fxg5 and Black loses the knight on f6.


Maguire, seen with his whip raised above shoulder height, has had to alter his action but, along with Murphy, collected a whip ban after their rousing Kempton finish

Jockeys in best position to judge whip response

Last Monday afternoon at Kempton Park we witnessed one of the most exciting finishes to the King George VI Chase for many years. My view of it was somewhat obscured, peering over the crowd from the back of an ambulance after my mount, Travado, had fallen at the thirteenth fence. But the 20,000 crowd had a better view of Barton Bank and Bradbury Star approaching the last fence.

And, I am sure, none of them was disappointed with what they saw: two excellent horses and jockeys at the top of their form battling for a victory that was in the balance throughout the final furlong. This was National Hunt racing at its best.

Unfortunately for Adrian Maguire on the winner, Barton Bank, and Declan Murphy on the runner-up, Bradbury Star, their efforts resulted in a two-day suspension for misuse of the whip, and the stewards ruled they had both hit their horses with unreasonable frequency. This has led to a resurrection of the whip debate that until last Monday had died down since the Jockey Club's rule changes last summer.

The rules and regulations concerning the use of the whip have changed the thinking of most, if not all, jockeys. Now we are fully aware of the problem and it has been vitally important for the good of racing that we have worked with the Jockey Club in trying to stamp out instances when horses have been abused. I am sure the Jockey Club would agree that horses are no longer hit unnecessarily and certainly not when out of contention.

The Jockey Club has also stressed that our use of the whip must be aesthetically pleasing. This has caused me to change my whip style completely — for the better. Since I started racing I have always brought my stick

JAMIE OSBORNE



Racing commentary

down from well above shoulder height, which gives the impression that the horse is being hit with unreasonable force. Now I am trying to master an underarm technique which is more pleasing to the eye and reduces the amount of force that can be applied.

Neither Declan Murphy nor Adrian Maguire rode in an offensive way last week. Their use of the whip was skilful and effective. They were getting the best out of their horses without being excessive or abusing them. The reason they were banned was for not giving their mounts time to respond to each stroke. Surely the best judge of whether a horse is responding is the jockey. He can feel a reaction that is hard, if not impossible, to gauge accurately from viewing a video recording.

This leads me to think that the stewards are in danger of losing sight of the reason why the rules were changed. In their interpretation of the new rules it is vitally important that high-class riding, as we saw at Kempton, is not penalised. This is a view shared by most professionals within the sport, trainers and jockeys alike.

We must try and eradicate a situation where stewards and jockeys are battling over what is good or bad use of the whip. We are all on the side of racing.

Tomorrow Declan Murphy goes to Portman Square to appeal against his ban. I hope that commonsense will prevail and the Jockey Club will realise that it has penalised him for an outstanding piece of textbook riding. Perhaps the members of the disciplinary committee should ask themselves whether they would have been happy with his riding had they owned Bradbury Star. I think the answer goes without saying.

EXETER

THUNDERER
1.05 Jump Start. 1.35 Secret Formula. 2.05 Hops And Pops. 2.35 October Brew. 3.05 Broughton's Tango. 3.35 Frozen Drop. 4.05 Tango's Delight.

GOING: HEAVY (7.30AM PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION)

1.05 DEEP WEALTH NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,949: 2m 2f) (18 runners)

1 0/6 ROCKY PARK 12 G Balding 8-11-10 — Craig Thornton
2 -PP6 GIVEITAGO 26 (B,G) A Turnell 8-11-8 — L Harvey
3 2/1 JUMP START 31 (CD,G) S Pike 7-11-7 — A Thornton (3)
4 P-30 FIRST COMMAND 28 (B) T Forster 7-11-6 — B Powell
5 26-2 NAZZARO 76 W G M Turner 5-11-3 — R Darke (7)
6 0211 DERRYMOSS 13 (V,CD,S) M Pipe 8-11-2 — T Dascombe (7)
7 4312 CHICKABIDDY 19 (CD,BF,G) G Edwards 6-11-1 — G Upton
8 U061 DAVES DELIGHT 7 (S) Miss S Waterman 8-10-13 (7ex) — Mr G Shenkin (7)
9 3152 SAINT CIEL 17 (BF,S) F Jordan 6-10-12 — Richard Guest
10 0-U3 WARFIELD 17 (B) P Nicholls 7-10-9 — G Bradley
11 00P0 MISS SOUTER 31 H Hoare 5-10-7 — Guy Lewis (7)
12 FU-U ELITE LEO 12 P Hobbs 9-10-6 — Peter Hobbs
13 34-5 CHERYLS PET 19 R Buckler 6-10-4 — S Earle
14 F/P- RUFFINSWICK 418 P Leach 8-10-2 — J Railton
15 /3-U CHARLAFRIVOLA 7 T Greathead 6-10-2 — W Humphreys
16 -5P0 RIVER STREAM 7 L Cottrell 7-10-0 — Mr K Harris
17 -050 COZZI 16 J Bradley 6-10-0 — P McLoughlin (7)
18 -0P5 MASTER MURPHY 40 P Murphy 5-10-0 — E Murphy

9-2 Jump Start, 11-2 Chickabiddy, 6-1 Derrymoss, 7-1 Saint Ciel, 8-1 Daves Delight, 10-1 Giveitago, 12-1 First Command, Rocky Park, 14-1 Charlafrivola, Elite Leo, 16-1 others.

1.35 THURLESTONE HOTEL NOVICES HURDLE (£1,802: 2m 2f) (9)

1 4213 VELVET HEART 34 (S) Mrs A Knight 11-0 — D Matthews (5)
2 HONEY GUIDE 51F R Baker 10-12 — L Harvey
3 04F MORAN BRIG 21 G Balding 10-12 — S Hodgson
4 6 SECRET FORMULA 21 G Balding 10-12 — E Leonard
5 5 SILVER STANDARD 20 T Forster 10-12 — B Powell
6 BORROWED AND BLUE 111F P Hobbs 10-7 — Peter Hobbs
7 0330 GUNNER SUE 16 M Scudamore 10-7 — R Bellamy
8 34 LOVE YOU MADLY 25 (BF) M Pipe 10-7 — J Lower
9 WISHFUL PRINCESS C Mitchell 10-7 — D Bridgwater

5-2 Love You Madly, 3-1 Gunner Sue, 4-1 Velvet Heart, 7-1 Borrowed And Blue, 8-1 Secret Formula, 10-1 Silver Standard, 14-1 others.

2.05 DAVID GARRETT MEMORIAL GOLD CHALLENGE TROPHY (Novices chase: £6,986: 2m 7f 110yd) (8)

1 2131 KALANSKI 7 (G,S) C Egerton 8-11-10 — J Railton
2 3102 LUCKY LANE 21 (B,F,G) P Hobbs 10-11-7 — Guy Lewis
3 P-13 VISAGA 17 (F,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-7 — D Bridgwater
4 6 MAXXUM EXPRESS 12 G Balding 6-11-0 — Richard Guest
5 P14- MELDON 301 (G) Mrs J Retter 7-11-0 — D Salter
6 -143 RAMPOLDI 16 (B,G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-0 — B Bradley
7 HOPS AND POPS R Alner 7-10-9 — S Earle
8 4-P2 KIWI VELOCITY 7 (BF,G,S) P Hobbs 7-10-9 — Peter Hobbs

3-1 Kiwi Velocity, 4-1 Kalanski, 9-2 Lucky Lane, 6-1 Hops And Pops, 7-1 Visaga, 8-1 Rampoldi, 14-1 Maxxum Express, 20-1 Meldon.

2.35 UPTON PYNE NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,760: 2m 2f) (7)

1 001P ROCKY BAY 6 (D,S) B Llewellyn 5-11-6 — Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
2 3 WHATEVER'S RIGHT 25 M Usher 5-11-6 — B Powell
3 0-0F ALICE SPRINGS 38 S Knight 5-11-1 — Mr T Greed
4 50 KRAKATOA 21 A Forte 5-11-1 — R Greene
5 -1213 OCTOBER BREW 62 (B,C,D,BF,G,S) M Pipe 4-10-8 — J Lower
6 642 NANQUIDNO 25 Mrs J Retter 4-10-3 — Richard Guest
7 PU NITA'S CHOICE 25 D B Tucker 4-10-3 — A Thornton (3)

9-4 October Brew, 5-2 Nanquidno, 3-1 Whatever's Right, 4-1 Rocky Bay, 7-1 others.

3.05 HALDON SUNDAY MARKET HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,458: 2m 2f) (7)

1 3532 MOHANA 7 (C,F,G,S) M Pipe 5-11-10 — J Lower
2 /26- KALOGY 296 (F) Mrs J Retter 7-11-8 — Richard Guest
3 4555 CORRIN HILL 7 (S) R Hodges 7-11-4 — Peter Hobbs
4 /2-P BOOTSCRAPER 19 (C,F,G,S) P Leach 7-10-11 — N Dowrus (7)
5 1-52 BROUGHTON'S TANGO 23 (F) M Heaton-Ellis 5-10-0 — S Keightley
6 41/- MISS PURBECK 640 (C,S) Mrs J Retter 7-10-0 — Mr J Culloty (7)
7 4402 AMPHIGORY 21 (C,F) P Rodford 6-10-0 — D Matthews (5)

9-4 Broughton's Tango, 3-1 Mohana, 7-2 Amphigory, 5-1 Kalogy, 8-1 others.

3.35 THURLESTONE HOTEL CLAIMING CHASE (£2,819: 2m 2f) (8)

1 6322 CRYSTAL BEAR 19 (B,F,S) T Forster 9-11-8 — B Powell
2 2F43 FROZEN DROP 25 P Richens 7-11-4 — Richard Guest
3 -56U MATERIAL GIRL 5 (G,S) C Egerton 8-11-3 — A Procter (5)
4 4-32 CHIASSO FORTE 4 (D,BF,G,S) P Hobbs 11-11-2 — Peter Hobbs
5 5526 CHANCERY BUCK 17 (F,G) R Frost 11-10-12 — R Darke (7)
6 46F0 SOCKS DOWNE 47 (D,G,S) A Chamberlain 15-10-12 — G Bradley
7 3-34 CEDAR RUN 17 (F,S) G Charles-Jones 11-10-10 — D Meade (7)
8 4/P HIGH IMP 48 (F,G,S) P Leach 14-10-8 — S Earle

2-1 Chiasso Forte, 7-2 Material Girl, 9-2 Crystal Bear, 5-1 Frozen Drop, 6-1 others.

4.05 EXETER NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,896: 2m 2f) (17)

1 1 HENRYS NO PUSHOVER 82 (S) F Hollis 5-11-12 — D Salter (5)
2 HENGIST Mrs S Williams 6-11-5 — D Matthews (5)
3 0- IVE CALLED TIME 327 Mrs R Brackenbury 6-11-5 — Guy Lewis (7)
4 KARICLEIGH BOY Mrs J Retter 6-11-5 — Mr J Culloty (7)
5 5 ORSWELL LAD 12 P Hobbs 5-11-5 — C Quinlan (7)
6 6 SHIMBA HILLS 26 Mrs J Retter 6-11-5 — Mrs J Retter
7 20- TANGO'S DELIGHT 282 D Elsworth 6-11-5 — N Wilmington (7)
8 66 BIBBY BEAR 56 (BF) Mrs A Knight 5-11-0 — Mr G Shenkin (7)
9 0 BOURNEL 12 C Barwell 6-11-0 — Mr Richard White (7)
10 DUNLIR P Rodford 4-10-7 — Miss S Cobden (7)
11 FRIENDLY VIKING B Young 4-10-7 — Miss S Young
12 INDERRING ROSE W G Turner 4-10-7 — D Meade (7)
13 MENDIP SON M Williams 4-10-7 — R Darke (7)
14 SOLDIER-B T Hallett 4-10-7 — N Isaac (7)
15 TAP SHOES R Baker 4-10-7 — A Thornton (3)
16 BESSIE BOSSY BOOTS A Forte 4-10-2 — R Greene
17 FORTITUDE STAR B Millman 4-10-2 — Mrs C Wonnacott

7-2 Tango's Delight, 9-2 Henrys No Pushover, 5-1 Orswell Lad, 7-1 Shimba Hills, 8-1 Karicleigh Boy, 10-1 Ive Called Time, 12-1 Tap Shoes, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Murphy, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; M Pipe, 70 from 217, 32.3%; G Balding, 11 from 45, 24.4%; P Hobbs, 18 from 83, 21.7%; R Alner, 3 from 14, 21.4%; Mrs J Retter, 10 from 50, 20.0%.
JOCKEYS: Peter Hobbs, 11 winners from 51 rides, 21.6%; D Matthews, 5 from 24, 20.8%; G Bradley, 6 from 33, 18.2%; Richard Guest, 8 from 50, 16.0%, L Harvey, 7 from 45, 15.6%.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER
1.00 Formal Affair. 1.30 Ramstar. 2.00 Chichell's Hurst. 2.30 Dare Say. 3.00 Little Thyne. 3.30 Happy Horse.

GOING: SOFT (CHASE COURSE); HEAVY (HURDLES)

1.00 HUMBERSTONE NOVICES HURDLE (£1,618: 2m) (7 runners)

1 03 COURAGEOUS KNIGHT 25 J Bradley 5-11-5 — R Farrant (3)
2 00-0 CUMREWS NEPHEW 33F R Brotherton 6-11-5 — P Midgley (5)
3 00-6 MR PICKPOCKET 49 (D,S) J Akehurst 6-11-5 — R Supple
4 43P/ NORTH HOLLOW 950 D McCain 9-11-5 — Mr D McCain (5)
5 00-0 TEST MATCH 16 (D,S) W Clay 7-11-5 — Diane Clay
6 54-3 SPREAD YOUR WINGS 53 D Gandolfo 6-11-0 — W McFarland
7 FORMAL AFFAIR 77F D Nicholson 4-10-2 — W Marston

☐ Spread Your Wings is also engaged in the 12.40 race at Windsor

5-4 Formal Affair, 11-4 Spread Your Wings, 9-2 Test Match, 11-2 Courageous Knight, 8-1 Mr Pickpocket, 16-1 others.

1.30 NEW YEAR NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,115: 2m 1f) (7)

1 0243 RAMSTAR 23 D Nicholson 6-11-10 — W Marston
2 4411 MAGGOTS GREEN 13 (S) J Bradley 7-11-7 — R Farrant (3)
3 3U-6 FIRST LESSON 32 P Hobbs 8-11-2 — M Hourigan
4 1/46 MR OPTIMISTIC 26 (G,S) J J O'Neill 7-11-1 — D Byrne
5 -353 HIGHLAND POACHER 16 (S) D McCain 7-11-0 — D Walsh (5)
6 00-0 LOCAL MANOR 33 D Sherwood 7-10-13 — Mr J Durkan
7 -P64 COUNTRY MISTRESS 27 J Old 7-10-4 — R Supple

7-4 Maggots Green, 3-1 Highland Poacher, Ramstar, 7-1 First Lesson, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Sherwood, 5 winners from 13 runners, 38.5%; M Pipe, 21 from 58, 36.2%; J Upson, 3 from 10, 30.0%; J Old, 4 from 19, 21.1%; N A Gaselee, 3 from 16, 18.8%; D Nicholson, 5 from 30, 16.7%.
JOCKEYS: R Supple, 3 winners from 19 rides, 15.8%. (Only qualifier)

☐ Tomorrow's meeting at Newton Abbot has been abandoned because the course is waterlogged.

2.00 FORD NOVICES CHASE (£2,135: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1 BUCKS SURPRISE J Mackie 6-11-5 — W Marston
2 -PF0 CHALIE RICHARDS 16 D McCain 7-11-5 — Mr D McCain (5)
3 P-34 CHRISTMAS GORSE 16 (BF) N Gaselee 8-11-5 — R Supple
4 5-5U IRISH BAY 7 (F,G,S) C Egerton 8-11-5 — D Byrne
5 U/FU RIDAKA 16 J Mackie 7-11-5 — T Eley (5)
6 4052 TEKLA 26 (S) A Chamberlain 9-11-5 — A Tory
7 3332 VAYRUA 27 (C,D,G,S) J Hellens 9-11-5 — M Hourigan
8 -2UF CHICHELL'S HURST 27 (C,D,S) Mrs P Sly 8-11-0 — A Carroll
9 4254 RIRANNA BAY 25 R Alner 7-11-0 — P Carey (7)

5-2 Chichell's Hurst, 3-1 Christmas Gorse, 4-1 Tekla, 5-1 Vayrua, 15-1 others.

2.30 WIGSTON HANDICAP CHASE (£2,175: 2m 1f) (4)

1 1-P2 DARE SAY 32 (D,F,G,S) R Alner 11-12-0 — W McFarland
2 4435 OLD ROAD 34 (S) D Wintle 8-11-2 — W Marston
3 2233 BOSSBURG 16 (B,D,S) D McCain 7-11-1 — Mr D McCain (5)
4 0555 SANDMOOR PRINCE 5 (F,G) P Pritchard 11-10-13 — Dr P Pritchard

11-8 Bossburg, 7-4 Dare Say, 100-30 Old Road, 10-1 Sandmoor Prince.

3.00 PARSLEY NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,520: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 0 COUNTRYWIDE LAD 28 C Weedon 5-11-6 — C Burnett-Wells (5)
2 -0P0 CASHTAL RUNNER 28 S Coathup 5-11-2 — Pat Caldwell
3 6503 NORDIC BEAT 18 (B) W Clay 5-11-2 — Diane Clay
4 FP36 LITTLE THYNE 7 P Pritchard 9-10-12 — Dr P Pritchard
5 03-6 TRENTSIDE MIST 17 C Smith 6-10-12 — M Ranger
6 -560 BORRETO 25 C James 10-10-8 — Mr E James (7)

11-8 Little Thyne, 11-4 Nordic Beat, 7-2 Trentside Mist, 11-2 Borreto, 8-1 Countrywide Lad, 10-1 Cashtal Runner.

3.30 GLEBE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,128: 3m) (10)

1 61-5 ROVULENKA 54 (C,BF,S) M Pipe 6-11-13 — M Foster
2 1P/6 FLYER'S NAP 24 (D,S) R Alner 8-11-8 — W McFarland
3 0-01 HAPPY HORSE 28 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-11-7 — A Tory
4 4410 DIG DEEPER 5 (S) J J O'Neill 7-11-5 — W Marston
5 231- RIMOUSKI 152F (D,G) B Cambidge 6-11-4 — Mr J Cambidge
6 FF64 GABRIELLA MIA 24 (CD,S) A Jarvis 9-11-3 — D Byrne
7 5/6- FOUR STAR LINE 520 (F,S) W G M Turner 9-10-6 — R Farrant (3)
8 6605 THE HIDDEN CITY 39 (G) C Trietline 8-10-3 — M Hourigan
9 -30P LAUGHING GAS 16 J Upson 5-10-1 — R Supple
10 4-F0 RELTIC 20 (D,G) C Broad 7-10-0 — A Flannigan (7)

5-2 Happy Horse, 3-1 Rovulenka, 11-2 Gabriella Mia, 7-1 Dig Deeper, 8-1 Flyer's Nap, 14-1 Laughing Gas, Rimouski, 20-1 others.

THUNDERER
12.50 Merry Nutkin. 1.20 Thistle Monarch. 1.50 Westholme. 2.20 Red Under The Bed. 2.50 Rodeo Star. 3.20 Juke Box Billy.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.20 **MAJOR BELL**.

GOING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

12.50 DALRYMPLE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,134: 2m) (19 runners)

1 11 MERRY NUTKIN 82 (F,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-12-0 — P Niven
2 /06 BLAYNEYS PRIVILEGE 18 R Woodhouse 7-11-5 — R Garritty
3 60-0 CROFTON LAKE 61 J Dixon 6-11-5 — Mr R Hale (5)
4 0 DERWENT LAD 51 M Barnes 5-11-5 — A Dobbin
5 FIVE TO SEVEN 7F C Thornton 5-11-5 — D Wilkinson
6 P/- FLOATER 1001 P Monteith 11-11-5 — D J Moffatt (3)
7 LOMOND SPRINGS J Barclay 5-11-5 — S Turner
8 43-6 MEDIA MESSENGER 28 Denys Smith 5-11-5 — P Waggott (5)
9 0-0 PESIDANAMICH 14 A Walfans 6-11-5 — N Doughty
10 0-P0 STONEY BROOK 18 C Parker 6-11-5 — B Storey
11 0-00 CHOIR'S IMAGE 31 J Eyre 7-11-0 — A Mulholland
12 -PP6 FINE OAK 23 D Robertson 7-11-0 — Mr D Robertson
13 /3-P HOWCLEUCH 18 K Oliver 7-11-0 — T Reed
14 00 LA DOUTELLE 23 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-0 — Mr J Bradburne
15 4/P TAUVALERA 18 D Swindlehurst 7-11-0 — Mr D Swindlehurst
16 F-53 THE WHIRLIE WEEVIL 18 G Richards 6-11-0 — M Moloney
17 1523 ERZADJAN 32 (B,D,S) N Tinkler 4-10-13 — G McCourt
18 203 DEVILRY 51 G Moore 4-10-7 — J Callaghan
19 LAWNSWOOD QUAY 813F D Williams 4-10-7 — C Grant

6-4 Merry Nutkin, 4-1 Erzadjan, 5-1 The Whirlie Weevil, 7-1 Devilry, 10-1 Media Messenger, 14-1 Pesidanamich, 16-1 others.

1.20 CULROY NOVICES CHASE (£2,879: 3m 1f) (10)

1 -122 CEILIDH BOY 34 (G,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 8-11-11 — B Storey
2 P/4- BOWLANDS WAY 288 (G,S) J Eyre 10-11-5 — A Mulholland
3 2-P CASTLEFERGUS 51 G Moore 7-11-5 — J Callaghan
4 2P-0V DEEP HAVEN 18 Mrs A Russell 9-11-5 — K Jones
5 V GARCALL 18 D Williams 8-11-5 — M Moloney
6 3F-V LOTHIAN PILOT 18 (G) C Lungo 7-11-5 — T Reed
7 5020 MONAUGHTY MAN 16 E Caine 8-11-5 — P Williams (5)
8 /0-6 PADDY MORRISSEY 18 J Haldane 7-11-5 — A Dobbin
9 00 THE LORRYMAN 28 W Reed 6-11-5 — F Perratt (5)
10 16-V THISTLE MONARCH 18 (G,S) G Richards 9-11-5 — N Doughty

7-4 Ceilidh Boy, 5-2 Thistle Monarch, 4-1 Lothian Pilot, 7-1 Castlefergus, 10-1 Monaughty Man, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Thornton, 5 winners from 11 runners, 45.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 27 from 71, 38.0%; G Richards, 40 from 175, 22.9%; G Moore, 12 from 60, 20.0%; Mrs S Bradburne, 14 from 82, 17.1%; J J O'Neill, 7 from 44, 15.9%.
JOCKEYS: D Wilkinson, 4 winners from 9 rides, 44.4%; Mr M Buckley, 5 from 15, 33.3%; P Niven, 32 from 98, 32.7%; N Doughty, 26 from 93, 28%; A Dobbin, 7 from 39, 17.9%; G McCourt, 7 from 40, 17.5%.

1.50 AYR NEW YEAR HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,868: 2m) (11)

1 4023 ABBOT OF FURNESS 7 (CD,S) G Richards 10-12-6 — N Doughty
2 2514 PERSUASIVE 30 (CD,G,S) Miss L Perratt 7-11-10 — Mr M Buckley (5)
3 1311 WESTHOLME 7 (D,G,S) M H Easterby 6-10-11 (4ex) — R Garritty
4 3900 REVE DE VALSE 14 (D,G,S) Denys Smith 7-10-6 — P Waggott (5)
5 P-09 LIABILITY ORDER 7 (D,S) M Hammond 5-10-0 — C Grant
6 3630 ALL WELCOME 59 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-0 — D Ryan (7)
7 -0P1 ARAGON AYR 18 (D,S) P Monteith 6-10-0 — A Dobbin
8 43F0 RINGLAND 26 (CD,G) T Cuthbert 6-10-0 — Carol Cuthbert (7)
9 560- ELGIN 317 (CD,S) P Monteith 5-10-0 — D J Moffatt (3)
10 300- DANCING STREET 353 T Craig 6-10-0 — C Hawkins
11 653- PIT PONY 219 (CD,G,S) D Robertson 10-10-0 — L O'Hara

6-4 Westholme, 4-1 Abbot Of Furness, 5-1 Persuasive, 8-1 All Welcome, 10-1 Aragon Ayr, Liability Order, 14-1 Ringland, 16-1 others.

2.20 McALPINE CHALLENGE CUP (Handicap chase: £3,404: 2m 4f) (5)

1 /03- IDA'S DELIGHT 429 (C,D,F,G,S) J Charlton 15-11-10 — B Storey
2 51PP ZAM BEE 17 (D,F,G,S) W Reed 8-10-8 — T Reed
3 22F2 DEEP DAWN 7 (S) M Hammond 11-10-8 — C Grant
4 F344 PINEMARTIN 4 (CD,F,S) G Richards 11-10-3 — N Leach (5)
5 4-1F RED UNDER THE BED 103 (BF,F) Mrs S Barrell 7-10-0 — J Callaghan

7-4 Deep Dawn, 5-2 Red Under The Bed, 9-2 Ida's Delight, Pinemartin, 7-1 Zam Bee.

2.50 HURLFORD NOVICES CHASE (£2,554: 2m) (11)

1 4211 POLITICAL TOWER 3 (D,S) M Barnes 7-12-1 — A Dobbin
2 -212 RODEO STAR 31 (D,BF,F,G,S) N Tinkler 8-11-9 — G McCourt
3 1536 SEMINOFF 14 (D,S) P Monteith 8-11-9 — C Grant
4 P6FP AYIA NAPA 14 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-3 — Mr J Bradburne
5 0-00 BE AMBITIOUS 53 S Payne 6-11-3 — K Jones
6 BULA NUDAY K Oliver 9-11-3 — T Reed
7 4235 FLING IN SPRING 26 Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-3 — P Williams (5)
8 3F FRONT LINE 18 J J O'Neill 7-11-3 — P Niven
9 13F- GALLATEEN 235 (F,G,S) G Richards 6-11-3 — N Doughty
10 04-0 HIGHLANDMAN 18 J Haldane 8-11-3 — B Storey
11 -063 SPANISH FAIR 23 (F) Mrs S Barrell 6-11-3 — J Burke (5)

6-4 Rodeo Star, 5-2 Political Tower, 4-1 Gallateen, 10-1 Front Line, 20-1 Fling In Spring, Seminoff, 25-1 others.

3.20 COYLTON NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,966: 2m 6f) (14)

1 F JINGLIN' GEORDIE 18 Mrs A Russell 6-12-8 — K Jones
2 0413 MASTER BOSTON 16 (S) R Woodhouse 6-11-10 — J Driscoll (7)
3 -651 BELLS HILL-LAD 18 (D,S) J Barclay 7-11-8 — A Dobbin
4 2U01 IVY HOUSE 17 (S) J J O'Neill 6-11-9 — C Grant
5 -443 PIRATE HOOK 34 Mrs J Goodfellow 6-11-7 — B Storey
6 -FP2 IMAFA 18 G Richards 6-11-4 — N Doughty
7 5-41 MAJOR BELL 23 (F) A Whillans 6-11-4 — M Moloney
8 322- CARSON CITY 366 Mrs M Reveley 7-11-0 — P Niven
9 -041 JUKE BOX BILLY 26 (F) J Johnson 6-10-10 — D J Moffatt (3)
10 43F4 DASHMAR 23 M Wane 7-10-9 — C Dennis
11 -004 NAWRIK 47 L Lungo 5-10-7 — T Reed
12 0006 CORSTON RACER 18 Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-0 — P Williams (5)
13 56-0 ORTON HOUSE 21 J Charlton 7-10-0 — J Callaghan
14 /06 STEPDAUGHTER 29 Mrs D Thomson 8-10-0 — P Kennedy (7)

4-1 Imafa, 5-1 Ivy House, 5-1 Major Bell, 7-1 Juke Box Billy, 8-1 Master Boston, 10-1 Bells Hill Lad, Carson City, 12-1 Pirate Hook, 14-1 others.

THUNDERER
1.00 Hillzah. 1.30 Samson-Agonistes. 2.00 Saw Mill. 2.30 Pusey Street Boy. 3.00 On Y Va. 3.30 Arc Bright.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M 100YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.00 ACORN LIMITED STAKES (£2,243: 1m 4f) (7 runners)

1 112- HILLZAH 18 (D,F,G,S) R Bastiman 6-9-5 — H Bastiman (7) 1
2 400- RAPID MOVER 14J (B,S) D Nolan 7-9-5 — J Quinn 2
3 240- RISING TEMPO 100J (D,F,G) B Baugh 6-9-5 — D Wright (5) 4
4 411- ALLMOSA 18 (CD,F,G) T Naughton 5-9-0 — A Garth (5) 5
5 005- AWESTRUCK 7 (B,F,G,S) B Preece 4-9-0 — T Wall 7
6 535- MR JAZZ DANCER 32 D Wintle 4-9-0 — N Adams 3
7 043- TRUBEN 15 (D,F,G) M Johnston 5-9-0 — J Weaver 6

7-4 Allmosa, 5-2 Hillzah, 7-2 Truben, 8-1 Rising Tempo, 10-1 Awestruck, 33-1 Mr Jazz Dancer, Rapid Mover.

1.30 CEDAR CLAIMING STAKES (£3,106: 5f) (13)

1 034- ANOTHER EPISODE 146 (D,F,G,S) J Berry 5-9-5 P Roberts (7) 8
2 160- SAMSON-AGONISTES 20 (CD,F,G,S) P Evans 8-8-11 A Clark 13
3 -344- TEE-EMM 13 (G) P Howling 4-8-9 — L Carter (7) 10
4 051- ASSIGNMENT 8 (C,D,F,G) J Ffitch-Heyes 8-8-7 — T Williams 11
5 3/6- BANHAM COLLEGE 6 (D,G) B McMahon 8-8-7 — T Quinn 9
6 540- DAYJUZ 129 (D,F) M Dods 4-8-7 — S Webster 4
7 665- SO SUPERB 18 (B,D,S) M Dods 5-8-5 — Dale Gibson 6
8 000- LAST STRAW 7 (D,G) A Jones 6-8-3 — Claire Balding (7) 12
9 605- BRISAS 41 (V,D,F,G) C Fairhurst 7-8-1 — J Fanning 1
10 300- TOMMY TEMPEST 20 (V,D,S) K Burke 5-8-1 — P McCabe (5) 5
11 103- SIMMIE'S SPECIAL 7 (B,D,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-8-0 — A Garth (5) 7
12 055- RAYS MEAD 13 (D,F) L Holt 6-7-12 — N Adams 2
13 000- STERLING PRINCESS 54 (V) P Howling 4-7-10 — J Quinn 3

11-4 Another Episode, 3-1 Assignment, 7-2 Samson-Agonistes, 8-1 Simmie's Special, 10-1 Tee-Emm, 12-1 Dayjuz, 14-1 Banham College, 16-1 others.

2.00 ROWAN MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,524: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 CHANCEY FELLA B Hanbury 9-0 — J O'Dwyer (7) 4
2 004- LONE RISK 47 C Allen 9-0 — E Guest 6
3 04- MAGIC JUNCTION 33 Lord Huntingdon 9-0 — J Williams 12
4 534- REGAL RAMBLER 7 L Barratt 9-0 — A Mackay 10
5 222- ROYAL CREST 28 P Cole 9-0 — T Quinn 3
6 0- SALUTATION 148 C Tinkler 9-0 — L Charnock 7
7 00- SANDY ARBUTHNOT 54 W Jarvis 9-0 — M Tebbutt 2
8 2- SAW MILL 41 Lord Huntingdon 9-0 — L Dettori 8
9 023- WINN'S PRIDE 7 R Hollinshead 9-0 — Paul Eddery 9
10 002- BUCKLEY BOYS 42 A Bailey 8-9 — S Whitworth 5
11 EUDORA (V) M Bell 8-9 — M Fenton (3) 1
12 52- LITTLE MINER 18 B Palling 8-9 — Stephen Davies (3) 13
13 NOT FOR SALE J Wharton 8-9 — M Wigham 11

2-1 Saw Mill, 3-1 Royal Crest, 5-1 Magic Junction, 8-1 Regal Rambler, Winn's Pride, 10-1 Little Miner, Buckley Boys, 12-1 Chancey Fella, 14-1 others.

2.30 ASH HANDICAP (£3,524: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 460- EASTLEIGH 8 (D,G,S) R Hollinshead 5-8-11 M Humphries (7) 1
2 000- PORT SUNLIGHT 80 (D,F,S) R Hannon 6-8-10 — L Dettori 12
3 443- MR CUBE 16J (D,F,G) J Bradley 4-8-9 — J Williams 11
4 006- MAJOR MOUSE 20 (D,F,G) W Haigh 6-8-6 — N Kennedy (3) 5
5 034- STATE FLYER 7 (B,S) G Oldroyd 6-8-0 — S Webster 9
6 353/ CLUB VERGE 553 A Bailey 4-8-0 — A Mackay 3
7 505- HAWAII STORM 6 (D,G,S) Miss A Whitfield 6-8-11 — R Street 13
8 041- LOCHORE 6 (CD,G) R Ingram 4-8-10 (6ex) — Dale Gibson 8
9 001- SWIFT SPRING 13 (G) P Cole 4-8-7 — T Quinn 2
10 340- MAROWINS 86 (G) E Alston 5-8-6 — J Quinn 10
11 006- CAN CAN CHARLIE 41 (G) M Johnston 4-8-4 — J Weaver 6
12 036- SIE AMATO 6 (D,G) J H Wilson 5-8-3 — J Fanning 4
13 644- PUSEY STREET BOY 6 (D,F,G,S) J Bosley 7-8-1 — Darren Moffatt (5) 7

3-1 Swift Spring, 5-1 Lochore, Port Sunlight, 6-1 Can Can Charlie, 8-1 others.

3.00 OAK HANDICAP (£2,243: 7f) (12)

1 030- ANDRAK 25J P Haslam 4-10-0 — J Weaver 12
2 050- FIRST GOLD 112 (F,S) J Wharton 5-9-11 — J Quinn 8
3 640- CLAUDIA MISS 26J (D,G,S) W Haigh 7-9-10 — N Kennedy (3) 7
4 665- BEATLE SONG 18 (D,F,G) C Hill 6-9-5 — S D Williams 2
5 200- ON Y VA 48 (CD,G,S) R Williams 7-9-4 Sarah Thompson (7) 10
6 000- OPEN AGENDA 209 K White 5-9-4 — R Wernham 3
7 /00- JAMAICA BRIDGE 20 Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-9-4 — Paul Eddery 1
8 060- HERETICAL MISS 20J J Ffitch-Heyes 4-8-3 — T Williams 4
9 555- CHILI LADY 8 R Brotherton 4-8-2 — A Mackay 6
10 004- CELESTINE 18 (V,D,F,G,S) C Fairhurst 5-8-1 — J Fanning 5
11 009- OUR MICA 7 (B,S) L Barratt 4-8-1 — N Adams 11
12 440- QUINZII MARTIN 16 (V,D,G) D Haydn Jones 6-8-1 — J Williams 9

5-1 Andrak, 6-1 Celestine, Beatle Song, 7-1 Jamaica Bridge, 8-1 others.

3.30 BEECH HANDICAP (£2,977: 2m 46yd) (8)

1 001- IOTA 7 (CD,G,S) J Harris 5-10-3 (4ex) — Paul Eddery 2
2 000- DOC SPOT 7 J H Wilson 4-9-5 — J Fanning 4
3 000- MAPLE BAY 6 (B) K White 5-9-4 — J Williams 3
4 220- ARC BRIGHT 26 R Hollinshead 4-8-6 — L Dettori 6
5 282- MILNGAVIE 20 (F,S) M Johnston 4-8-4 — J Weaver 7
6 316- MINGUS 14J (D,F,G,S) R Fisher 7-8-2 — L Charnock 5
7 053- ENFANT DU PARADIS 7 (G) P Evans 6-7-10 — J Quinn 8
8 009- LORD ADVOCATE 23J (V,F,G) D Nolan 6-7-9 — N Kennedy (3) 1

9-4 Iota, 7-2 Enfant Du Paradis, 4-1 Arc Bright, Milngavie, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

INCLUDES TURF MEETINGS

TRAINERS: B Hanbury, 8 winners from 27 runners, 29.6%; P Cole, 6 from 34, 17.6%; J Berry, 13 from 101, 12.9%; R Hannon, 4 from 32, 12.5%; J Wharton, 3 from 29, 10.3%; A Bailey, 3 from 30, 10.0%.
JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 9 winners from 51 rides, 17.6%; A Clark, 5 from 33, 15.2%; N Kennedy, 3 from 20, 15.0%; T Quinn, 7 from 47, 14.9%; Dale Gibson, 5 from 36, 13.9%. Only qualifiers.

Kilcash heads British challenge

KILCASH and Satin Lover lead a strong British raid on The Ladbroke at Leopardstown on Saturday. They were yesterday confirmed as definite starters with Royal Derbi, Land Afar, Arcot and Welshman other likely British-trained runners.

Peter Hedger, the trainer of Kilcash, runner-up last year, is hoping that those at the top of the handicap will stand their ground. Kilcash, joint-favourite at 8-1, has been allotted 10st 12lb. "The weights will definitely go up, but I'm praying they don't rise too much," Hedger said. "I would not like Kilcash to carry 11st 5lb as he did last season."

Blinkered first time

WOLVERHAMPTON: 1.00 Awestruck. 1.30 Sterling Princess, Tommy Tempest. 2.00 Eudora.

Apprentices banned

DAVID McCabe and Jason Tate, both apprentices, became the first Flat jockeys of 1994 to be penalised for their use of the whip at Southwell on Saturday.

McCabe received a four-day ban (January 10-13) after finishing second on Olympic Way, while Tate was suspended for two days (January 10-11) after winning on Vishnu.

Sherwood sets sights on saddling third Sun Alliance Hurdle winner

Large Action underlines festival claim

By Julian Muscat

THE Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle at the Cheltenham festival has been kind to Oliver Sherwood, who has twice landed the race since he took out a trainer's licence in 1984. After another impressive display from Large Action, ridden by Jamie Osborne, in the Challow Hurdle at Newbury on Saturday, Sherwood again has that prestigious event in his sights.

Large Action, previously a dual winner over two miles on good ground, proved he can handle both an extended trip and heavy going in dismissing the persistent challenge of Corrouge by 3½ lengths. He now stands head and shoulders above his contemporaries in the novice hurdlers' division.


ED BYRNE

Antonin, left, about to overhaul Rathvinden House on his way to victory in the Ladbroke Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Newbury

Nap: PEATSWOOD
(2.25 Cheltenham)

Nb: Toogood To Be True
(12.40 Cheltenham)

A six-year-old by The Parson, Large Action will also be entered in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle over two miles, but Sherwood yesterday said the 2½ miles of the Sun Alliance was much the preferred option. "Only if the ground came up heavy would we even consider running him over the shorter trip," he said.

"Ten years ago I made the mistake of running The Breener in the Supreme Novices' Hurdle because the ground was testing," he explained. "The two races are very different ball games; they go so much quicker in the two-miler. We now know Large Action stays well, so the plan is to head for the Sun Alliance." His earlier victories in the race came with The West Awake in 1987 and Rebel Song the following year.

Sherwood, who reported Arctic Call and Young Pokey on their way back for duty in the second half of the season, rates Large Action as much the best of his novice hurdlers, although Butler's Twitch, a difficult horse to train, could also enter festival calculations.

Whereas Large Action will have one more outing before Cheltenham, David Nicholson has elected to send his Tripleprint King George VI Chase winner, Barton Bank, straight for the Gold Cup. "The horse has won first time out for the last three seasons so he obviously goes well after a break," Nicholson said yesterday.

Among the inmates at Nicholson's Jackdaws Castle stables in Gloucestershire is Mysilv, 6-1 favourite for the Triumph Hurdle but a possible Champion Hurdle contender after Carobee's recent defection with a leg injury. Should Mysilv take the more difficult option, Nicholson could have a more than able deputy in Winter Forest, who made a winning debut over timber at Newbury in the Wickham Novices' Hurdle.

Winter Forest, a rare National Hunt performer for Shaikh Ahmed Al-Maktoum, was gifted the race when the challenging Supreme Master fell at the last flight. Nevertheless, Winter Forest is expected to improve for what his trainer felt was a more than satisfactory introduction. "The target for him would be the Triumph Hurdle, which, after all, is a championship race for four-year-olds," he said. "Basically, the Triumph is also the right race for Mysilv, but we will make a decision on where she goes at a later date. I won't mind at all if I have two or three runners in the same race."

Nicholson remains incensed at the whip rule which forced the Kempton stewards to hand out two-day riding bans to his retained jockey, Adrian Maguire, and Declan Murphy, who between them fought out that memorable finish to the King George a week ago. He is convinced the Jockey Club stewards will soon be forced to undertake a comprehensive review of the new whip regulations, which came into force in July last year.

Murphy has appealed against the ban and will state his case to the Club's disciplinary committee tomorrow. "I didn't discuss with Adrian whether he should also appeal because he broke the rules," Nicholson said. "Personally, I don't think there is any point in appealing but, like so many of us, I hope Declan Murphy can do something for the good of racing. Rules are rules even though, in this case, they are there to be broken."

Dubai visits check Dettori's flying start

LANFRANCO Dettori's bid to wrest the Flat jockeys' title from Pat Eddery has caught the public's imagination (Julian Muscat writes). Their support has been such that the Italian-born rider is now 6-4 joint-favourite with Eddery in what sponsors William Hill believe is a straight fight between them. The Tote quote Dettori at 11-8 clear favourite.

Dettori had an encouraging start on Saturday when he landed the opening Flat race of the year at Lingfield aboard the Neil Graham-trained Tiddy Oggie. He went on to complete a double on Able Choice in the concluding race. However, an unwelcome aspect for those who backed him to win the title is that Dettori's new retainer with Shaikh Mohammed requires him to make regular trips to ride in Dubai.

"I'm not sure how often I'll be riding in Dubai but I will go back and forwards each time," Dettori said. "I'll wait and see how it develops but I won't die if I have to miss some days on the all-weather." Dettori's absence from some fixtures will curtail his efforts to build a useful lead before Eddery resumes at the start of the turf season on March 24. But he will demonstrate his commitment to the cause on Saturday, when he expects to ride at Lingfield in the afternoon and the Wolverhampton evening meeting.

"I have not been to Wolverhampton since they rebuilt the stand but they tell me the crowd are indoors behind glass, while we ride outside in the cold. At least I won't be able to hear the abuse they shout at me," he quipped.

Peatswood is value in Spa Hurdle

CHELTENHAM
BBC2

12.40: Toogood To Be True, dropped 11lb for a good third to Majed and Arcot at Wetherby, is best here. Although unproven over this trip or on such soft ground, his latest run suggested a sterner test of stamina was required. The ability to win coming from off the pace could help Peter Easterby's improving hurdler with the front-running Prime Display and Zamirah in the field. Dark Honey, who had every chance here when falling two out last time, is the danger.

1.15: Earth Summit revelled in the mud at Chepstow six days ago but he takes on tougher opposition and is far from certain to appreciate the step back in distance. The mud-loving **Lo Stregone** gave the smart One Man a run for his money at Haydock last month and should have too much speed for Well Briefed.

1.50: Topsham Bay and Mister Ed are the only two horses running off their proper handicap marks in this lopsided race – and they both prefer good or faster ground. The front-running Indian Tonic, who slipped up in the Welsh National, will make this a real stamina test which should suit **Moorcroft Boy,** who can again account for Just So.

2.25: Peatswood impressed when winning at Kempton on King George day and a combination of factors in the Spa Hurdle suggest he is a value bet to reverse Ascot form with Sweet Duke and Bollin William. Apart from being considerably better off at the weights, the shorter trip, softer ground and ability to quicken should benefit Mick Channon's improving six-year-old.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

WINDSOR
C4

1.40: Island Jewel has been *running consistently* well but is not guaranteed to stay this extra half-mile. By contrast, **Beyond Our Reach** should appreciate this slight drop back in distance after being caught close home by Peatswood at Kempton a week ago. The course and distance winner can beat the progressive Kabayil.

2.10: The Glow would have every chance if reproducing *his run* behind Crystal Spirit at Cheltenham, but I prefer **Factor Ten,** who just failed to win on his chasing debut at Kempton two months ago. The form of that race has worked out well and, provided Henrietta Knight's runner is none the worse for a lay-off, he *can oblige.*

2.40: It may be worth taking a chance on the fitness of **Dancing Paddy,** who looks well *treated* on his seasonal debut. Ken Cunningham-Brown's hurdler is at his best over two miles on soft ground and finished last season by winning a strongly contested Ascot race. The handicapper has probably caught up with Absalom's Lady. Highbrook, almost a stone better off with the Ascot winner, is the obvious danger.

3.10: Nearco Bay races for the first time since winning the 1991 New Zealand Grand National and will surely need the run in a contest of limited betting appeal. Zamil is the best handicapped horse but ran badly at Southwell five days ago when his jumping was to blame. **Glenshane Lad** is hardly foot-perfect at his fences but he has ability and would have won at Stratford last week but for unseating his rider two out. Avonburn, last year's winner, is in form but looks a little high in the *handicap.*

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WINDSOR

THUNDERER

12.40 Hawaiian Youth	2.10 The Glow
1.10 Quentin Durwood	2.40 Dancing Paddy
1.40 Beyond Our Reach	3.10 *Glenshane Lad*
	3.40 SQUIRE SILK (nap)

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT PATCHES (CHASE COURSE); SOFT (HURDLES) SIS

12.40 GRAN ALBA NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I £1,961: 2m) (15 runners)

1	43-16	HAWAIIAN YOUTH 31 (D,S) (G Rectord) R Rowe 6-11-12	H Davies	92
2	0-	ADEL 254 (The Dubliners Partnership) M Tompkins 7-11-5	D Murphy	–
3	P0	BISHOPS TRUTH 63 (Jnem) R Coates 8-11-5	G Crone (7)	74
4	0	CREDON 31 (Faulker Racing) S Woodman 6-11-5	M Richards	75
5	P-0	FILE VESTRY 59 (The Jet Stationery Company Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-5	I Lawrence	–
6	0-0	WILLIAM JOHNNY 47 (The Jymjam Partnership) J Akehurst 5-11-5	D Gallagher	–
7	6-00	MEDWAS SWAN SONG 21 (C Piney) R Hodges 6-11-5	S McNeill	–
8	4-1	MISTER NOVA 73 (B) (Lord Matthews) N Henderson 5-11-5	M A Fitzgerald	–
9	0	QUEEN'S AWARD 33 (F Rozencile) ; Widow & Son) R Champion 5-11-5	S Smith Eccles	–
10	35-66	HALL END LADY 23 (J Hackle) J White 6-11-0	B Clifford	77
11	0/P-0534	KICKING BIRD 49 (Bbc D Claessen-Overton) K Bailey 7-11-0	N Williamson	94
12	54-3	SPREAD YOUR WINGS 53 (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 6-11-0	P Holley	66
13		*TITAN EMPRESS (The Rookies Partnership)* S Mellor 5-11-0	M Perrett	–
14	6/22	TOO SHARP 13 (BF) (Sir Anthony Scott) Miss H Knight 6-11-0	J Osborne	85
15		BONE SETTER (M Foy) S Mellor 4-10-7	Chris Webb (7)	–

☐ Spread Your Wings is also engaged in the 1.00 race at Leicester

BETTING: 11-4 Too Sharp, 3-1 Mister Nova, 5-2 Hawaiian Youth, 6-1 Kicking Bird, 8-1 others.

1993: FATHER RALPH 7-11-5 A Maguire (10-1) D Gandolfo 21 ran

1.10 SCOTTISH REEL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,918: 2m) (12 runners)

1	P-11223	STRONG VIEWS 30 (F,6,9) (Mrs M Horan) J White 7-12-0	M A Fitzgerald	93
2	2P030-6	SAFFAAH 41F (G) (Miss H Levy) W Muir 7-11-4	M Richards	–
3	3/200-66	MAJOR INQUIRY 58 (F,G) (Mrs T Brown) J Gifford 8-11-2	D Murphy	–
4	2423/12	CROOKED COUNSEL 25 (CD,BF,6) (I Scott, D MacFarlane) K Bailey 8-10-12	N Williamson	90
5	42U223-	QUENTIN DURWOOD 296 (S) (P Bonner) S De Haan 8-10-9	S McNeill	98
6	0-22P3	ILEWIN 25 (F,6) (Alister Packaging Ltd) M Haggerdge 7-10-5	M Ahern	85
7	3F/64-U2	MIDNIGHT STORY 37 (Mrs C Fortescue) Mrs M Long 9-10-4	D Gallagher	87
8	355222/	*RICH NEPHEW 615 (F,6,S) (D MacDougall) R Rowe 9-10-3*	*H Davies*	–
9	36-U34U	BATHWICK BOBBIE 7 (B) (W Clifford) A Turnell 7-10-0	D Fortt (7)	85
10	65P-4F3	DURRINGTON 20 (S) (Mrs S Elphicki M Bolton 8-10-0	B Clifford	88
11	P00-000	GREEN'S TRILOGY 25 (K Cumberbatch) K Clutterbuck 6-10-0	Mr G Hogan (7)	–
12	6P0-U4P	SEMINOLE PRINCESS 26 (B Hemsley) C Jones 6-10-0	M Bosley	–

Long handicap: Bathwick Bobbie 9-10, Durrington 9-10, Green's Trilogy 8-3, Seminole Princess 7-7

BETTING: 3-1 Crooked Counsel, 4-1 Strong Views, 6-1 Brown, Midnight Story, 8-1 Quentin Durwood, 10-1 Major Inquiry, 12-1 Saffaah, 14-1 Bothwick Bobbie, Rich Nephew, 16-1 others.

1993: SAILORS LUCK 8-10-4 D Murphy (10-1) P Murphy 17 ran

1.40 TOTE CREDIT HANDICAP HURDLE — C4
(£3,810: 2m 6f 110yd) (15 runners)

1	1P-6FR	SHANNON GLEN 16 (B,S) (Mrs E Hitching) Mrs J Pitman 8-12-0	L O'Hara (7)	–
2	14P/P0-P	GOLDEN CELTIC 22 (CD,G,S) (Mrs H Brown) Miss H Knight 10-11-13	Mr G Hogan (7)	–
3	115-111	KABAYIL 27 (G,S) (Side Racing Club) C Egerton 5-11-9	J Osborne	94
4	3321/11-	BALLYSTATE 426 (CD,F,6) (Mrs R Stevens) C James 6-11-2	S McNeill	89
5	B121/F0	WELSH SIREN 30 (CD,F,6) (R Dawes) K Bailey 8-11-1	N Williamson	95
6	04-2100	SPECIAL ACCOUNT 25 (G,S) (T Fiorillo) C Barwell 8-10-12	M A Fitzgerald	94
7	3/3U-142	BEYOND OUR REACH 7 (CD,BF,S) (Hunt & Co Ltd) R Hodges 6-10-12	H Davies	95
8	0241-P5	CHIEF CELT 16 (G,S) (Mrs J Peppiatt) J King 8-10-12	S Smith Eccles	98
9	51155-2	MYHAMET 100 (D,G,S) (D O'Connor) P Hobbs 7-10-11	B Clifford	95
10	410-422	ISLAND JEWEL 19 (S) (M Cartwright) J Bosley 6-10-6	M Bosley	90
11	UF-F004	WINABUCK 25 (F,G,S) (Mrs P Crawford) R Dickin 11-10-1	D Meredith (3)	99
12	31P15-3	BRIGHTLING BOY 20 (CD,F,6) (M Hayden) D Gressell 9-10-1	D Gallagher	85
13	5F4PP-0	TIM SOLDIER 17 (G,S) (N Jinks) M Barraclough 7-10-1	M Perrett	–
14	11/F/	SALMON PRINCE 828 (D,F) (L Bush) C Barwell 8-10-0	N Mann	–
15	3/3F2P	THE BOLTING CURATE 20 (Poem Racing) R Rowe 9-10-0	C Burnett-Wells (5)	–

Long handicap: Salmon Prince 9-13, The Golfing Curate 9-0

BETTING: 7-2 Beyond Our Reach, 4-1 Kabayil, 11-2 Island Jewel, 10-1 Brightling Boy, Myhamet, 12-1 Winabuck, 14-1 Chief Celt, Welsh Siren, 16-1 Ballystate, Shannon Glen, Special Account, The Golfing Curate, 20-1 others.

1993: ROYAL ATHLETE 10-11-6 M Pitman (3-1 fav) Mrs J Pitman 25 ran

FORM FOCUS

KABAYIL beat Handsome Ned 11l in 8-runner handicap hurdle at Plumpton (3m 1f, soft). BEYOND OUR REACH 1½l 2nd of 10 to Peatswood in handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, good). MYHAMET 2½l 2nd of 10 to Shannon Rival in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 5f 110yd, good).

ISLAND JEWEL 4l 2nd of 9 to Edenbourg in handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, soft). THE GOLFING CURATE 25l 2nd of 8 to Ebony Gale in novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: KABAYIL

2.10 THOMPSON INVESTMENTS NOVICES CHASE — C4
(£2,931: 2m 5f) (8 runners)

1	43-1234	PRINCE'S COURT 41 (B,D,F,G) (Court Jesters Partnership) A Turnell 11-11-7	D Fortt (7)	70
2	0-2313U	THE GLOW 7 (CD,BF,S) (Mrs T Brown) D Elsworth 6-11-7	P Holley	86
3	5	BALLYDOUGAN 23 (R Matthew) R Mathew 6-11-0	N Mann	–
4	63131-2	FACTOR TEN 87 (BF,G) (Premier Crops Ltd) Miss H Knight 6-11-0	J Osborne	89
5	P32-412	FRANK RICH 46 (G) (The F R Syndicate) S Sherwood 7-11-0	M Richards	–
6	00/036P-	HERMES HARVEST 312 (Miss B Palmer) D Williams 6-11-0	Mr G Hogan (7)	–
7	23025-0	VAVASIR 156 (G) (R Causer) P Hobbs 8-11-0	N Williamson	–
8	202/5/4	YOUR WELL 23 (G,S) (D Newell) J White 8-11-0	B Clifford	–

BETTING: 11-4 Factor Ten, 3-1 Prince's Court, The Glow, 4-1 Frank Rich, 12-1 Your Well, 16-1 others.

1993: NATIVE PRIDE 6-11-7 A Tory (9-2 fav) K Bailey 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRINCE'S COURT about 2¼l 4th of 7 to Unholy Alliance in novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). THE GLOW 1½l 3rd of 5 to Crystal Spirit in novice chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good) on penultimate start. FACTOR TEN 2l 2nd of 7 to Some Day Soon in novice chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) FRANK RICH beat Kellys Darling 2½l in 11-runner novices' handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. Makes chasing debut. YOUR WELL 19l 4th of 7 to Misaree in handicap hurdle at Lingfield (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). Makes chasing debut.
Selection: THE GLOW

2.40 CHEVELEY PARK STUD NEW YEAR'S DAY HURDLE (Limited handicap: £8,169: 2m) — C4
(6 runners)

1	210-434	FLAKEY DOVE 23 (D,F,6,S) (J Price) R Price 8-12-0	N Williamson	99
2	22/2-113	ABSALOM'S LADY 6 (D,S,S) (Whitecombe Manor Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 6-11-10	P Holley	97
3	021-110	LEOTARD 30 (D,BF,G,S) (C Heath) D Sherwood 7-11-8	J Osborne	95
4	512-34F	AMAZON EXPRESS 7 (D,6) (Mrs J Mass) R Akehurst 5-11-2	M Richards	93
5	12-24	HIGHBROOK 18 (D,G) (H Cook) M Tompkins 6-10-11	D Murphy	97
6	241R01-	DANCING PADDY 271 (D,S) K Cunningham-Brown 6-10-11	D O'Sullivan	98

BETTING: 9-4 Absalom's Lady, 3-1 Highbrook, Leotard, 9-2 Flakey Dove, 10-1 Amazon Express, Dancing Paddy

1993: MUSE 6-11-5 A Procter (13-2) D Elsworth 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

FLAKEY DOVE about 3¼l 3rd of 6 to King Credo in grade II hurdle at Ascot (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. ABSALOM'S LADY 5¼l 3rd of 5 to Muse in grade I Christmas Hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to soft). Previously best Satin Lover 5l in conditions hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good to soft) with HIGHBROOK (13lb better off) 9¾l 4th. LEOTARD best Native 5l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. AMAZON EXPRESS best recent effort 8½l 3rd of 5 to Staunch Friend in conditions hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good). HIGHBROOK mch 2nd of 12 to Long Affair in Wildmoor Hill Handicap Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. DANCING PADDY best effort beat Mayed 3¾l in 14-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd heavy) last season.
Selection: HIGHBROOK

3.10 PARTY POLITICS HANDICAP CHASE — C4
(£3,875: 3m) (13 runners)

1		NEARCO BAY (Queen Elizabeth) N Henderson 10-12-0	M A Fitzgerald	–
2	4/151-P2	AVONBURN 23 (CD,F,B,S) (H Spooner) P Hedger 10-11-10	M Richards	91
3	F1025-0	FALSE ECONOMY 93 (D,G,S) (M Shone) J Edwards 9-11-6	D Gallagher	86
4	422/112	HOLTERMANN 40 (C,BF,G,S) (V & T Ass) Mrs L Richards 10-11-6	S McNeill	90
5	2-1433P	ZAMIL 5 (BF,G,S) (P Sweeting) K Bailey 9-10-12	J P Banahan	98
6	1651-14	WARNER FOR WINNERS 13 (B,F,G,S) (Terry Warner Spares) P Hobbs 8-10-10	J Osborne	94
7	342230	GLENSHANE LAD 5 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs H Dutley) K Bailey 8-10-8	N Williamson	98
8	21/400	ROSITARY 16 (F,S) (P Wentworth) P Wentworth 11-10-8	M Perrett	–
9	0/3412-4	J J JIMMY 25 (F,G,S) (R Guilding) S Christian 10-10-5	P Holley	93
10	5-83331	MISS FERN 27 (D,F,G,S) (Phillips, Duane & Company) R Dickin 9-10-0	D Meredith (3)	94
11	2F/2F-P	PUNCH'S HOTEL 25 (Mrs A Deeson) R Rowe 9-10-0	C Burnett-Wells (5)	85
12	P-24336	POWDER BOY 63 (D,F,G) (D Harford) R Hodges 8-10-0	I Lawrence	97
13	4236/6-P	HICKLETON LAD 72 (F,G) (Miss B Palmer) D Williams 10-10-0	Mr G Hogan (7)	–

Long handicap: Miss Fern 9-11, Punch's Hotel 9-10, Powder Boy 9-10, Hickleton Lad 9-9

BETTING: 11-2 Holtermann, 6-1 Avonburn, J J Jimmy, 7-1 Glenshane Lad, Nearco Bay, 8-1 Miss Fern, Warner For Winners, 10-1 False Economy, Zamil, 25-1 Powder Boy, Punch's Hotel, 33-1 Rositary, 66-1 Hickleton Lad

1993: AVONBURN 9-11-3 M Richards (4-1 fav) P Hedger 19 ran

FORM FOCUS

AVONBURN neck 2nd of 4 to The Widget Man in handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, good to soft). HOLTERMANN 6l 2nd of 4 to Crooked Counsel in handicap chase here (2m, good). Previously beat Around The Horn 6l in 4-runner handicap chase at Towcester (2m 110yd, good). ZAMIL 4¼l 3rd of 5 to Dunacilla in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (2m 7f, heavy) on penultimate start. WARNER FOR WINNERS best Red Amber 2½l in 11-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f, good) on penultimate start. J J JIMMY 3l 2nd of 8 to Palmrush in handicap chase at Warwick (2m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. MISS FERN beat Rufus 2l in 8-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (3m 1f 110yd, soft) with POWDER BOY 2½l 3rd.
Selection: MISS FERN

3.40 GRAN ALBA NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Div II: £1,947: 2m) (14 runners)

1	5-1	FRIENDLY FELLOW 25 (S) (The Radio Three) D Elsworth 5-11-12	P Holley	95
2	0-4	CELTIC LAIRD 16 (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-5	I Lawrence	90
3	0/2	DUTCH MONARCH 58 (R Alley) Mrs B Sanders 7-11-5	A Dicken (5)	–
4	320-0	FALCONBRIDGE BAY 16 (P Shakespeare) N Henderson 7-11-5	M A Fitzgerald	72
5	P	LUCKY LORENZO 23 (J De Mestre) P Hedger 6-11-5	M Richards	–
6	020-0	MARROB 31 (R Lynch) R Akehurst 7-11-5	M Perrett	90
7	04P/0-	MORIARTY 496 (Mrs K Osmond) R Price 7-11-5	J Osborne	–
8	0-006	POLICEMANS PRIDE 40 (R Dove) M Madgwick 5-11-5	J Clarke (7)	–
9	0-	PRETTY BOY GEORGE 266 (K Clutterbuck) K Clutterbuck 5-11-5	M Ahern	–
10	50-652	SQUIRE SILK 35 (R Ogden) A Turnell 5-11-5	S McNeill	98
11	550-00	FORTUNES COURSE 33 (Mrs A Garrett) J King 5-11-0	S Smith Eccles	–
12	43/0	MERTON MISTRESS 30 (P Wentworth) P Wentworth 7-11-0	D O'Sullivan	–
13	30-0	STATE LADY 74 (C Cooper) A Barrow 5-11-0	M Williamson	–
14		OLDHILL WOOD (D Mayfield) S Mellor 4-10-7	Chris Webb (7)	–

BETTING: 2-1 Friendly Fellow, 5-2 Square Silk, 5-1 Dutch Monarch, 8-1 Celtic Laird, Marrob, 10-1 others.

1993: FATHER RALPH 7-11-5 A Maguire (10-1) D Gandolfo 21 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Elsworth	5	21	23.8	P Holley	5	23	21.7
P Hedger	5	23	21.7	J Osborne	10	55	18.2
S Sherwood	3	14	21.4	N Williamson	7	43	16.3
Mrs J Pitman	7	33	21.2	B Clifford	3	19	15.8
D Gressell	4	19	21.1	M A Fitzgerald	3	20	15.0
Miss H Knight	5	24	20.8	M Richards	7	52	13.5

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS

Newbury

Going: soft (heavy patches)

12.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. Winter Forest (A Maguire, 3-1); 2. Marius (10-1). 3. Duveen (10-1). Supreme Master 7-4 fav. 12 ran. NR: Begalino. 6l, 3l. D Nicholson. Tote: £3.70; £1.70, £1.90, £2.90. DF: £17.00. Trio: £67.80. CSF: £31.14.

1.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. Nibilles (A Maguire, 5-2); 2. Here He Comes (15-8 fav); 3. Miami Splash (4-1). 5 ran. NR: Propaganda, Sebald River. 3l, 7l. Miss A Whitfield. Tote: £2.80, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £2.20. CSF: £7.19.

1.40 (2m 5f hdle) 1. Large Action (J Osborne, 4-5 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2. Corrouge (5-1). 3. Top Spin (11-2). 7 ran. 3½l, 12l. O Sherwood. Tote: £1.40; £1.80, £1.50, £2.30. DF: £3.90. CSF: £5.73.

2.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1. Antonin (J Burke, 25-1). 2. Rathvinden House (12-1); 3. Grange Brake (12-1) Midnight Caller 5-2 fav. 10 ran. 12l, 25l. Mrs S Bramall. Tote: £20.80; £4.00, £2.20, £4.80. DF: £105.10. Trio: £757.20. CSF: £254.29. Tricast: £3,376.29.

2.45 (3m 110yd hdle) 1. Seekin Cash (J Osborne, 7-4 fav); 2. Tolhenwoods (3-1); 3. Fun Monkey (5-1). 13 ran. 12l, 6l. C Egerton. Tote: £2.70; £1.30, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £4.30. Trio: £9.90. CSF: £7.85.

3.15 (2m 4f ch) 1. Gnome's Tycoon (J Railton, 5-4 fav), 2. Viking Flagship (2-1); 3. Lyphento (12-1). 4 ran. 15l, 30l. R Phillips. Tote: £2.10. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.96.

3.45 (2m 110yd flat) 1. St Mellion Fairway (Pat Thompson, 4-1); 2. Lead Vocalist (5-2 fav), 3, Ace Player (5-1) 14 ran. NR: Quaker Waltz, Shimba Hills. 1½l, 1½l. J Old. Tote: £5.10; £2.00, £2.30, £2.00. DF: £8.10. Trio: £42.30. CSF: £15.49.

Jackpot: £7,100.00 (0.1 winning tickets. Pool of £7,178.78 carried forward to Cheltenham today). Placepot: £259.80.

Lingfield Park

12.50 1. Tiddy Oggie (9-4); 2. Thorny Bishop (11-1). 3, La Spegna (13-8 fav). 7 ran. NR: Balmaha.

1.20 1. Mediator (40-1). 2, Malamute Saloon (4-7 fav). 3, Baby Kenwood (13-2). 12 ran.

1.55 1. Rockcaser (16-1); 2. King Rat (5-2 fav). 3, Leviathan Mystery (13-2) 6 ran

2.25 1. Mistinis (10-1); 2. Invocation (11-2); 3. Gustawa (5-2 fav) 6 ran

2.55 1. Awesome Power (5-2); 2. Master Hyde (4-1); 3. Luckham Style (25-1) Applianceofscience 9-4 fav. 9 ran.

3.25 1. Able Choice (100-30). 2. Kenyana (16-1); 3. Cibumel News (7-2) Dancing Diamond 9-4 fav 10 ran.

Nottingham

1.00 1. Mountebor (5-1). 2. Impeccable Timing (7-2); 3, Moulton Bull (5-4 fav) 6 ran. NR: Bathwick Bobbie.

1.30 1. Ottoman Empire (13-8 fav); 2. Makes Me Giddy (100-30); 3. Soloman Springs (7-2). 6 ran. NR: Gwaliago

2.00 1. Nickle Joe (13-8 fav); 2. Dont Tell The Wife (15-8). 4 ran. NR: Ballydougan, Bucks Surprise

2.30 1. Shared Gold (13-2); 2. Danger Baby (8-1); 3, Nogd (5-1), Missroy 4-1 fav 8 ran.

3.05 1. Shraden Leader (10-1); 2. Furry Knowe (5-2) 3, Under Offer (14-1) 8 ran

3.35 1. Easthorpe (4-1); 2, Strath Royal (9-4); 3, Celtic Bob (33-1). Hyde's Happy Hour 2-1 fav. 8 ran.

Southwell

1.05 1. Maz (3-1 fav), 2, Captain Coral (9-2); 3, Surprise Guest (5-1) 6 ran.

1.35 1, Sea Devil (3-1 fav); 2, Dream Carrier (4-1). 3, Valiant Man (7-1) 14 ran.

2.05 1, Speedy Classic (7-1); 2, Superlativemaximus (11-1); 3, Croft Impetus (7-1); 4, Kenmelka (10-1) Strip Cartoon 4-1 fav 16 ran

2.35 1, Sharp Sensation (2-1 fav), 2, Olympic Way (12-1); 3, Indie Rock, (4-1). 9 ran. NR: Marathie

3.10 1, Tempering (4-5 fav); 2, Irish Groom (25-1); 3, Le Temeraire (11-2) 4 ran NR: Penis By Night.

3.40 1, Vishnu (7-1), 2, Pearly Dancer (9-1); 3, Dashing Fellow (8-1) Eurotwist 7-2 fav 9 ran. NR: Sugamar.

☐ The meeting at Catterick was abandoned due to frost.

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing runners	Level stakes
Mrs M Rowley	53	41	27	17	+4.96
K Bailey	45	28	25	1	+2.47
M Pipe	38	42	21	4	-19.34
N Twiston-Davies	36	27	23	2	-24.54
D Nicholson	37	28	21	1	+4.84
P Hobbs	33	16	23	12	+116.21
J White	32	19	19	43	-35.37
D Sherwood	27	16	14	1	+14.79
J Johnson	26	11	8	2	+105.51

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Rides in chase no.	Level stakes
A Maguire	107	73	52	3	+63.83
R Dunwoody	67	75	53	4	-107.00
J Osborne	54	39	33	0	-40.81
N Williamson	50	52	37	19	-52.38
P Niven	49	40	29	8	-40.14
G McCourt	38	31	25	3	-4.62
M A Fitzgerald	36	29	36	0	-46.74
D Murphy	31	27	22	4	-12.58
G Bradley	29	10	13	1	+10.32

Hoddle enjoys happy return to County Ground



Hoddle: resurgent



Andrew Longmore sees Chelsea profit from the lack of belief at the Premiership's bottom club

In years to come, when he is England manager perhaps, Glenn Hoddle might reflect on New Year's Day 1994 and thank heaven for Swindon Town. Any other side, faced by the return of a perceived deserter, would have come out teeth bared and claws sharpened for revenge. Swindon simply rolled over and invited Chelsea to tickle their tummy. Three goals, three points and a happy new year to you.

If all he had to endure was a few taunts of "Judas" from his old home crowd in return for such generosity, Hoddle would be happy to potter down to his old haunt at the County Ground every Saturday afternoon. Not so much the Super Swindon advertised on the window of the club shop as Supine Swindon.

A 3-1 victory, comfortably secured by half-time and never threatened thereafter, has given Chelsea precious breathing space at the bottom of the table and their manager a happy end to his most testing week yet in the precarious business of football management.

Chelsea have peered over the abyss and recoiled in horror, and, though, as Hoddle pointed out, there is no cause to rejoice yet, the transformation from the disorganised, dispirited rabble so abject in defeat last Monday to the half-decent conquerors of Newcastle and Swindon has been a tribute to their manager's powers of persuasion. Whatever Hoddle said behind the locked dressing-room door at Southampton has had its effect.

Chelsea have suddenly found purpose and confidence where once there lay confusion and despair. Stein has at last found his goal touch, three in three games, and Shipperley, sharp and direct, is proving a skilful ally at the front.

Above all, Hoddle has moved Wise from the cold of the right wing to the heat of the midfield and been rewarded with two vigorous displays. Wise, the man of the match against Newcastle, was again responsible for much of the best work on Saturday as Chelsea did on the first day of 1994 what they had failed to do for the whole of 1993, namely win away from home.

"We have not turned the corner, but we are turning it," Hoddle said. A few more gentle afternoons in the mid-West and Chelsea's rehabilitation would be complete.

In fulfilment of the pre-match publicity, Hoddle's arrival in the stand was roundly jeered by the Swindon fans, but their hearts were not really in it. This is bobble hat and woolly scarf country and sustained bitterness is not part of their repertoire any more than it is part of Hoddle's.

Besides, the ire of the locals very soon turned to the inadequacies of their own team, which has won only twice at home this season, and of Keith Hackett, who disallowed four goals, three by Swindon. Not that his meanness affected the result.

Swindon played prettily enough but without any belief or nous and, once Chelsea had realised this could be a soft touch, Hoddle's men went about their business with the quick-witted assurance of a pickpocket among tourists.

Shipperley, a poke-in from three yards after a corner, and Stein, from even closer, gave Chelsea a 2-0 lead at half-time, and Wise's last-minute header only confirmed the inevitable. Mutch managed an immediate consolation, but the home supporters had long since fallen into reverie about the days when Judas was on their side.

SWINDON (4-4-2): N Hammond — T Fenwick, A Whitbread, S Taylor, K Horlock — N Summerbee, M Ling (sub: J-A Fjortoft, 84min), J Moncur, C Meskell (sub: P Bodin, 73) — K Scott, A Mutch.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): D Kharine — S Clarke, E Johnsen, F Sinclair, A Dow — D Wise, C Burley, E Newton, G Peacock (sub: N Spackman, 86) — M Stein, N Shipperley (sub: J Spencer, 67).

Referee: K Hackett.

Memories of past greatness still dog Souness

Ipswich Town 1
Liverpool 2

By Oliver Holt

FOR all its candle and bonhomie, Graeme Souness's new year message nearly turned mandlin at Portman Road on Saturday. The Liverpool manager was busy recalling the death of his father a year ago last month as a factor in his ability to cope with the flood of criticism levelled at him when he noticed the silence of the group clustered around him and changed tack. "I'm supposed to be enjoying this," he said.

If Fowler's 88th-minute header had found the roof of the net rather than hitting the underside of the bar and allowing Rush to stoop to nod the ball home to clinch the visitors' first win over the holiday period and end a sequence of five draws, Souness's reaction might not have been couched in such contemplative terms.

Despite the sweeping changes in playing staff he has made at Anfield, the memories of past greatness dog his progress still. Rush is a living legend on Merseyside, Liverpool's record goalscorer, but a player whose striking prowess is waning, almost tangibly, by the game.

He is the captain, but he looked a shadow of his former self against the modest Ipswich defence, a pale imitation of Fowler, his 18-year-old striking partner. The suspicion, enforced by recent substitutions, is that he may be the last of many old acquaintances Souness would prefer to forget.

Although he scored the winner and it was made by Barnes, another increasingly peripheral figure, there were those who tried to foist false symbolism on this Liverpool victory on the first day of 1994 and touted it as the harbinger of greatness to be reclaimed.

But new seasons and new signings, not new years, usher in new eras and Liverpool's performances against Manchester United tomorrow night and Bristol City in the FA Cup on Saturday will be more significant pointers to the brightness of their future than these snatched points.

"Historically, the games against United have always been very big," Souness said. "The roles are reversed at the moment because we are in the chasing pack and we are one of many teams striving for the consistency that only Alex Ferguson seems to have achieved this season. But we will be looking to do everyone else a favour on Tuesday.

"We are just one or two players away from being real challengers. We have had to introduce a lot of young players into the team when ideally it should have just been one or two. But I knew the price when I bought the ticket and we feel we are on the right lines. Bristol City will be vital for us too because that is our chance of winning something this year and it is our route to Europe."

After a dreadful first half that brought forth all the jokes about new year hangovers, Liverpool injected some urgency into their game in the second period. Bjornebye, a first-half replacement for Matteo, provided a refreshing degree of poise on the left of midfield and it was from his driven corner in the 57th minute that Ruddock headed Liverpool's opening goal.

Ipswich should have gone ahead five minutes earlier but Marshall prodded lamely at Stockwell's cross and the ball was hacked clear. The former Oldham Athletic forward made partial amends 15 minutes from time when he ran on to Guentchev's mishit shot and side-footed it past Grobbelaar to set up the frantic finale.

IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): C Forrest; E Youds (sub: F Yallop, 71min), D Linighan, P Whelan, N Thompson; M Stockwell, J Wark (sub: B Gunnlaugsson, 71), G Williams, G Johnson; I Marshall, C Kiwomya.

LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): B Grobbelaar; R Jones, N Ruddock, M Wright, S Harkness; D Matteo (sub: S Bjornebye, 28), N Clough, J Redknapp, S McManaman (sub: J Barnes, 76); T Rush, R Fowler.

Referee: A Gunn.



Souness: contemplative

Champions again falter at home

Leeds' defensive screen blocks United's assaults

Manchester United 0
Leeds United 0

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

MANCHESTER United are breathing such life, such verve and such a challenge into the season that it is becoming an effort on the part of others to still their pulse merely by preventing them from flowing.

On a clear and bright New Year's Day, the streets around Old Trafford heaved with people clamouring to see what many must have suspected would be a pragmatic Leeds attempt to stifle them. The touts were there in numbers, begging for tickets to buy, not having any with which to fleece the customers.

And so, even though United had been held to a draw three times on their own ground since November, even though this match came after the surfeit of Christmas encounters, the place was throbbing with expectation.

Small wonder. When you have a Giggs or a Cantona in your colours, you have a right to expect that something, somewhere will be transcend any amount of professionally organised frustration. Leeds, however, provided a British example of Italian defence in depth. They had four players man-marking, and Newsome plugging any gaps. They deployed McAllister, captain and playmaker, more as a deep lying anchor in front of this garrison.

And though the outcome appeared to condone the method, though Howard Wilkinson could claim a coach's organisation had defeated artistry, there was a thrilling consolation.

It came down the left wing from an Irish youth, who at 19 is a year behind Giggs in the process of maturing. Hands up those who knew that Gary Kelly could be the equal of Ryan Giggs.

The Leeds youngster, still green enough to feel pangs of homesickness for his folks in Drogheda, was a man in the way that he used the ball, ran with Giggs, timed his tackles with persistent stealth and precision and then attempted to obey his manager's orders by breaking into attack.

The breaks were not altogether surprising. Kelly, a product of Home Farm, the Dublin nursery club was bred as a winger. His conversion came last summer when Wilkinson decided: "He's quick, he has two good feet, he's good in the air, to my mind he is a reactive rather than a proactive player, so I ask him to defend."

During Saturday's game, Jimmy Armfield, who captained England from right back, took a deep breath and pronounced Kelly the find of the season. Wilkinson knew that he would be, and knew that he would cope with the *Old Trafford atmosphere*.

"He's used to crowds," the Leeds manager said laconically. He's the youngest of 13 kids!" A slight exaggeration. My information is that Kelly is one of 12, and that when Wilkinson asked his father if there were more like him at home, he was directed to the 16-year-old son of Gary Kelly's oldest sister, and promptly signed him as an apprentice.

An Irish tale to be sure. And although Kelly was seen to tug at Giggs' arm when the United winger sprinted onto a judicious pass from Kanchelskis in only the third minute, that slight indiscretion was the one dubious moment of the engaging man-to-man, or boy-to-boy contest, that at times required Giggs to chase back into defence to perform his own moments of suppression.

That word summed up the entire match. Wilkinson, having sold Cantona to Manchester United, admitted afterwards that he regarded it as his duty not to allow the Frenchman to provide his usual brush strokes and inspiration.

Both managers praised the marking role carried out by Fairclough, and both managed to ignore the fact that Cantona's flaw, his petulance when things run against him, could, and probably should, have resulted in the red card.

The French genius had begun the afternoon with an ugly stamp against the shin of Fairclough, he had become one of four men booked for another foul, and then received only a lecture from David Elleray, the Harrow schoolmaster, who attempted to referee this match by letting it flow.

Wilkinson claimed that he came for victory, that his team were never scared nor intimidated but that their poor passing failed to release players out of defence.

Yet Cantona was never far from his strategy. "He is the same player on a different stage, in different circumstances," Wilkinson said. "When he was on my stage, we were losing football matches. Those were not performances conducive to the way he played, so I left him out, he didn't like it, and he asked to go."

Wilkinson thus inferred that Cantona is a genius when the team is winning; Manchester United since recruiting him have hardly had time to discover the other side to his Gallic temperament.

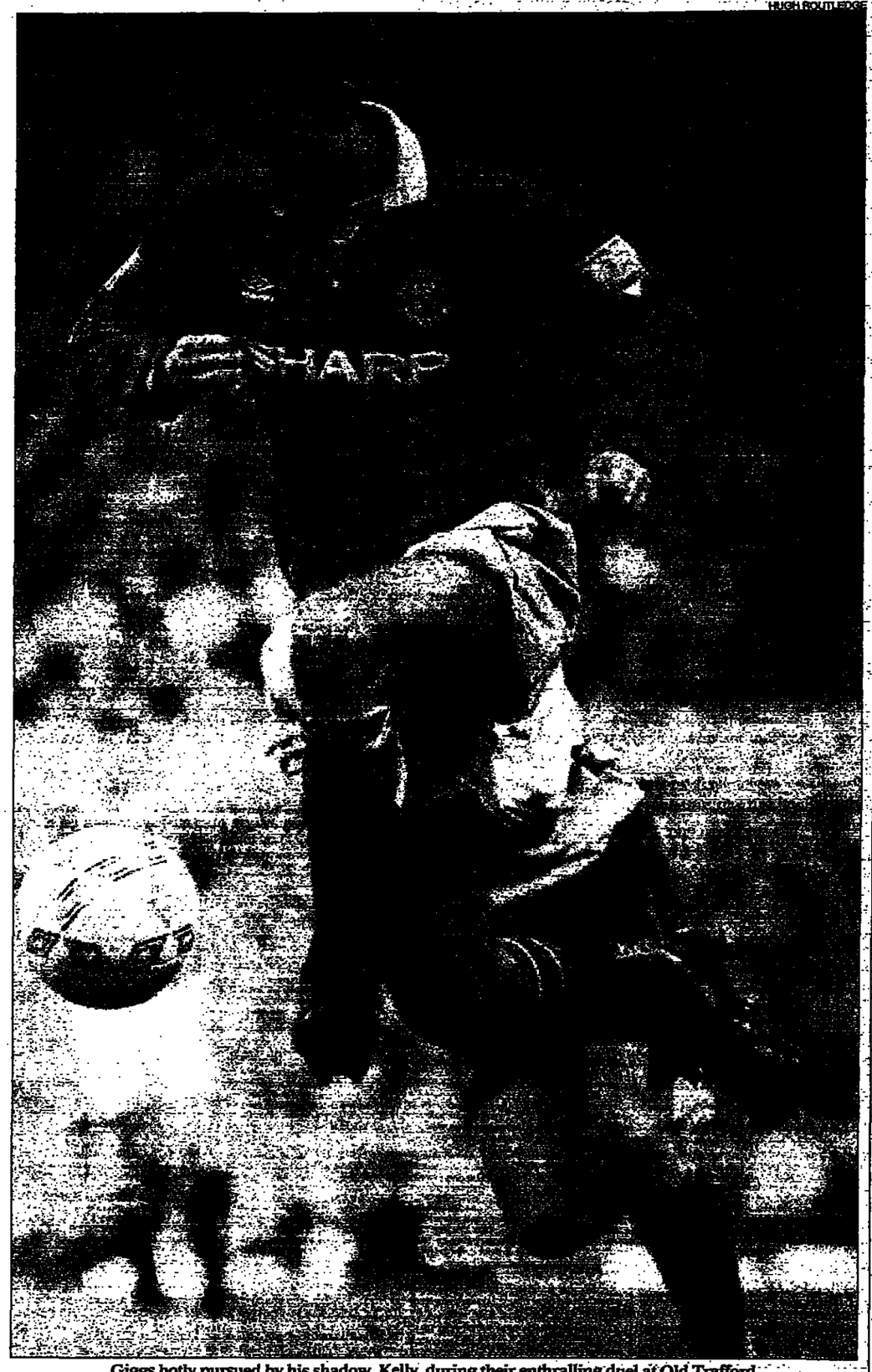
While both managers excused a game in which neither goalkeeper was tested as typical of the Christmas period in which too many players are wearied or injured, a voice of truth spoke afterwards. Bryan Robson, having his first full game for a month, observed: "It was up to Leeds to try to catch us, but we were surprised by the tactics they adopted. They came to do nothing more than contain us, and I found that strange. At least when we go to Liverpool on Tuesday, they will have to attack us. Liverpool can't sit back at Anfield." Robson, soon to be 37, has yet to learn manager-speak.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — P Parker, S Bruce, G Pallister, D Irwin — A Kanchelskis, R Keane, B Robson, R Giggs — B McClair, E Cantona.

LEEDS UNITED (5-3-2): M Beeney — G Kelly, C Fairclough, J Pemberton, J Newsome, A Dorigo — G Strachan, G McAllister, S Hodge (sub: K Sharp, 84min) —, B Deane, D White.

Referee: D Elleray.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Giggs hotly pursued by his shadow, Kelly, during their enthralling duel at Old Trafford

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	24	57	+29	DWDWD
2	Blackburn	23	45	+14	WWDWW
3	Arsenal	24	43	+17	WLWWW
4	Leeds	24	42	+12	LWDDD
5	Newcastle	23	39	+19	DWDLW
6	Norwich	22	37	+11	WLWLW
7	Liverpool	23	36	+8	DDDDW
8	QPR	23	35	+7	LWWDL
9	Sheffield Wed	24	34	+11	LWWDW
10	Aston Villa	23	34	+1	DLLWL
11	West Ham	24	33	-8	WLDLW
12	Tottenham	24	30	+4	WDLWL
13	Coventry	22	30	-1	WLDWW
14	Ipswich	23	30	-5	WDWDL
15	Wimbledon	23	29	-7	WWLDL
16	Everton	24	25	-11	DLLLL
17	Chelsea	22	21	-9	LDLWW
18	Sheffield Utd	24	21	-17	DLDLW
19	Manchester City	23	20	-10	WLLDL
20	Oldham	23	19	-22	LDLLL
21	Southampton	24	18	-13	LLWDL
22	Swindon	24	15	-30	DWLDL

Change ▲ Up ▬ Stayed the same ▼ Down

Francis makes the right moves

Queens Park Rangers 1
Sheffield Wednesday 2

By Russell Kempson

TREVOR Francis, a leading contender for the England managerial vacancy, possesses the right credentials. He is 39 — too young to be tainted by a cynical overload and too shrewd to be lured into tabloid hype — has 52 international caps and extracurricular playing experience with Detroit Express, Sampdoria and Atalanta.

He manages Sheffield Wednesday, twice defeated cup finalists last season and now enjoying a run which has seen only one defeat in 18 matches, with a quiet confidence, is not afraid of making unpopular decisions and maintains a diplomatic air in the face of widespread speculation over his future.

"It was a private discussion between ourselves and I prefer it to remain that way," he said of his chat with Jimmy Armfield, headhunter to the Football Association. "I have not passed any comment on the situation and don't intend to."

Francis, Keegan, Hoddle and Gerry Francis are among the bright young things that the tired old FA is looking to for salvation. Maybe to complement the authority of Venables; maybe to take on the whole challenge.

For the moment — he has a contract at Hillsborough until 1996 — Francis is content to urge his weary troops through a domestic programme which emphasises durability rather than excellence. If he eventually enters Lancaster Gate, a streamlining of the league system should head his priorities.

Victory over Queens Park Rangers on Saturday owed much to Wednesday's ability to hang tough when their usual fire had been doused by the midnight celebrations, however restrained, of 15 hours earlier.

Still without Pearson, Sheridan and Hirst, Wednesday were further handicapped by the loss of Waddle, with an inflamed right ankle. Sinton, a returning Ranger who was booed at his every touch, also departed prematurely when Francis felt he could no longer tolerate such obviously suspect fitness.

"I took Andy aside in the dressing-room and explained everything to him," Francis said. "He has only just got back after a long time out and it is going to take a while for him to get fit again."

Francis also replaced Bart-Williams in the 75th minute and reshuffled, putting Pearce into the back four, moving Palmer into midfield and playing Jemson up front. Four minutes later, Wednesday had transformed a 1-0 deficit — Ferdinand had earlier squeezed in his thirteenth goal of the season — into a winning margin.

Bright expertly headed in Nilsson's cross and Watson at last cast aside his bewildering indecision to drill home a pass from Jones. It was a double substitution and a tactical switch that Francis half-mockingly accepted as pure genius. A gambler with proven pedigree; just what England are looking for.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-2-2-2): J Seaman — D Bardsley, S Yates, D Peacock, R Brevett — C Wilson, R Wilkins — T Sinclair, M Meaker — G Penrice, I Ferdinand.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — R Nilsson, C Palmer, D Walker, N Worthington — C Bart-Williams (sub: A Pearce, 75min), G Hyde, R Jones, A Sinton (sub: N Jemson, 75) — M Bright, G Watson.

Referee: J Worrall.

Little sign of hope for Horton

Newcastle 2
Manchester City 0

By Peter Ball

FRANCIS Lee's takeover cannot come too soon for Manchester City. On Saturday their appalling run continued, Newcastle's comfortable victory leaving City one place and one point above the bottom three.

They have won only one league game in the last 14, the worst run in the FA Carling Premiership, and on Saturday's performance, and with Saturday's team, there is no sign that things will turn round. The team was impossible to recognise as the one that left the field at interval on November 7 to rapturous applause as it led the championship leaders 2-0.

City lost that game and have been losing ever since. Part of the reason is that the side is indeed unrecognisable from that team. "It's the year of the knee, 1993, isn't it?" Horton said. "We've been decimated — we lost four internationals and Flitcroft, who soon will be one. Terry Phelan's just gone down with flu. He couldn't get out of bed when I phoned his room this morning. I wish I hadn't got out of bed."

Instead of Quinn and Curle, City had Carl Shutt on loan from Birmingham, and a young reserve, John Foster, making their debuts in a scratch team also lacking Phelan, Flitcroft and McMahon and containing four central defenders.

Shutt did all right, even if his duel with Brian Kilcline did look like a rehearsal for a footballing version of *All Our Yesterdays*. But a player presently surplus to Birmingham's requirements is hardly the basis for survival in the Premiership.

Desperate situations call for desperate measures, but until Lee arrives to untie the purse-strings, Horton has no options. "That was the side I had to put out because of injuries. Flitcroft might be back on Monday, but I'll probably have to do it again then," Horton said. Rumours from the Lee camp yesterday began to cast doubts on his own future with the club, even if thoughts of attracting Ron Atkinson to Maine Road sound more like stories for April 1 rather than January 1.

The first goal was the sort poor sides give away. Kernaghan's purchase for £1.6 million when money was tight does not give Horton great claim to the stewardship of the millions Lee is supposedly going to release, was partly responsible, misjudging Hooper's long kick and then compounded his error by turning his back on the ball for Sellars to gain possession. Beardsley headed back Sellars's deep cross and Cole was unmarked to score with a simple header, a biting criticism of a side lining up with three central defenders.

Cole claimed his second of the match and 27th of the season on the stroke of half-time. All that remained to settle was the margin of victory. City reverted to a traditional 4-4-2, with Vonk pushed forward to partner Shutt, and prevented further disasters as Newcastle recognised they had done enough.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): M Hooper — M Robinson (sub: A Mathie, 77min), B Kilcline, S Howey, J Beresford — R Lee, P Bracewell (sub: S Watson, 45), L Clark, S Sellars — P Beardsley, A Cole.

MANCHESTER CITY (5-5-2): A Coton — J Foster, A Kernaghan, M Vonk — R Edghill, D Rocastle, S Lomas, F Simpson, I Brightwell — M Sheron (sub: K Ingebrigtsen, 81), C Shutt.

Referee: K Morton.

Industrious Parlour at heart of Arsenal's resurgence

Wimbledon 0
Arsenal 3

By Alyson Rudd

ANYBODY anaesthetised by Arsenal's tendency to be involved in goalless draws will have been stirred by their seasonal surprise of ten goals in three games. Stirred but not shaken. While other challengers for the Premiership title gather bouquets for inspiring performances, Arsenal continue to err on the side of dull.

Their defeat of Wimbledon on Saturday was achieved in classic Arsenal style. They got behind the ball, soaked up the early Wimbledon pressure and waited to pounce on a clearance they could work quickly through midfield. After 18 minutes the first break came: Winterburn crossed to Parlour, who set up Campbell for his sixth goal in three matches. A second goal, by Parlour, came courtesy of clumsy defending five minutes later.

A solid midfield devoid of flair enabled Arsenal to move the ball with speed and accuracy and without fuss. Individual skill was left to the finishing. There was one excellent cross from Wright, and a cheeky back-heel from Campbell set up Arsenal's third goal, scored by Wright.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, naturally had praise for the in-form Campbell but also put his side's change in goalscoring fortunes down to the determination of Parlour and Hillier, his young midfield players. Parlour, involved in all three goals, is the epitome of midfield industry; the fastest legs on the pitch after 90 minutes despite a touch of flu.

Wimbledon, meanwhile, were at times unrecognisable. Stunned by the two early goals, they emerged for the second half with some attractive passing movements. Clarke came on to bolster the attack and Elkins, the left back, ventured forward intelligently. Unfortunately, what Wimbledon had gained in inventiveness they had lost in aggression.

Arsenal, though, can realistically plot for a title challenge built on their defensive record. Having nosed into third place there could be little incentive for Graham to introduce flair. But while solidity can bring goals against Swindon Town, Sheffield United and Wimbledon, individual trickery might be what is needed against more challenging sides.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): H Segers; W Barton, D Blackwell, S Fitzgerald, G Elkins, V Jones, R Earle, P Fear (sub: A Clarke 46min), N Ardley, J Fashanu, D Holdsworth.
ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman; L Dixon (sub: M Keown 79), S Bould; A Adams, N Winterburn, R Parlour, J Jensen (sub: P Merson 86), D Hillier, E McGoldrick, K Campbell, I Wright.
Referee: G Ashby.

Plymouth follow Clough's lead

Peter Robinson praises the second division team flying the flag for the West Country



JULIAN HERBERT

Marshall, the Plymouth forward, is unbalanced by the challenge of Chivers, the Bournemouth defender

NORWICH City have been a delightful surprise of football in the Nineties. Manchester United's revival has been exhilarating, if not overdue, Newcastle United's little short of astonishing, but it was Norwich who brought a fresh-faced charm to the top of the FA Carling Premiership. The club is a monument to clear thinking, in the boardroom and on the training ground, to sensible husbandry and creative play. It is also a beacon of hope for Plymouth Argyle.

As Norwich are the standard-bearers for East Anglia, so Argyle fly the flag for the West Country, another part of football's green belt, away from the urban heartlands of London, the Midlands and the North. For years, Argyle supporters have comforted themselves with the knowledge that, if they are not yet among the game's elite, then they should be. They know all about good facilities, catchment areas and potential support. They also know all about long seasons of frustration and underachievement.

It is always Argyle for the supporters, a throaty Devonian burr that says: "Arrrgyell", never Plymouth. Like Aston Villa, the supporters revel in their unique club name. Uniteds are ten-a-penny, anyone can be called Town or City. There is only one Argyle and Argyle followers will always tell you their club is a sleeping giant. Few take any notice.

Yet on Boxing Day, more than 15,500 clicked through the turnstiles at Home Park to see Argyle play Fulham, a team struggling at the foot of the Endsleigh Insurance League second division. If you blinked when you saw that figure in the paper the following day, you were not alone. It was, on the face of it, extraordinary for a division that generally attracts crowds of half that number; but it was also a demonstration of the potential that men in green scarves have been on about for years.

It was inspired by a run of form that, before Saturday, had seen Argyle win their last seven matches, five of those in the league, and emerge from the mid-table morass to join the promotion challengers. It was a run of form that persuaded around 3,000 supporters to follow the team in Bournemouth, another show of what-might-yet-be. When Argyle trotted out in a version of Norwich's distinctive yellow and green kit, the similarities between the two clubs began to look almost eerie, yet if the impression was of Norwich, the inspiration is all Nottingham Forest.

Peter Shilton is the Argyle manager, John McGovern his assistant, and Ian Bowyer the youth team coach, all three ensuring that the legacy of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor lives on. Clough would have purred with pride on Saturday as Plymouth gave a display that bore his hallmark, defending in depth, breaking in numbers and exchanging flurries of crisp, short passes before delivering shots that unerringly found the target. Although Bournemouth dominated for long spells, the visitors soaked up the pressure in the same frustrating style Forest took with them on all their travels and emerged 1-0 victors.

The game was won by its one moment of true quality, a perfect swinging, driven cross from Dalton on the left that presented Marshall a chance he could hardly miss at the near post. Bournemouth, lacking luck and confidence in front of goal, could never peg back that 55th-minute strike.

BOURNEMOUTH (4-5-3): V Bartram — A Pennock, A Watson, G Chivers, G Mitchell — B McGorry (sub: R Murray, 85min), J Parkinson, M O'Connor — S Cotterill, S Fletcher, W Aspinall.
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (4-3-3): A Nicholls — M Patterson (sub: M Edworthy, 73), K Hill, A Comyn, D Naylor — W Burnett, S Castle, S McCall — D Marshall, K Nugent, P Dalton.
Referee: P Alcock.

Celtic board feels fury of unforgiving supporters

There was a period in the match on Saturday when it seemed that Rangers might be deprived of victory. The danger lay not in a Celtic recovery but from the seething hatred on the terracing. With the visitors 3-0 ahead after 28 minutes a supporter raced from a first-aid post where he was receiving treatment to try to attack the goalkeeper, Ally Maxwell. Had Rangers moved further in front a riot might have brought the match to a premature close.

For Celtic followers the fury stemmed from the ignominy, but their sour reaction found targets beyond the field of play. This may be the first occasion in footballing history when Rangers would not have come bottom of any popularity contest conducted at their rivals' stadium. Compared to the Celtic board, they are almost thought of fondly.

In the closing stages, a patron of the stand knotted his scarf into a noose and swung it slowly in front of the directors. Earlier, others had pelted them with coins and other objects. The club hopes to identify some of those responsible and ban them. The Scottish Football Association is also to review the various disturbances, but any punishment of Celtic will be lenient.

They could not be accused of negligence on a day when Parkhead was garrisoned with hundreds of police and stewards. The SFA's chief executive, Jim Farry, even remarked that the ruling body would have to "retain a sense of perspective". The afternoon's despicable excesses should not cause Celtic any lasting anxiety.

Their real concern must lie with the tens of thousands of Celtic supporters who were law-abiding but equally enraged. Rangers scored the first two goals of their 4-2 victory in the opening three minutes and, freakish or not, that momentous start left the home support in no doubt as to their side's inferiority.

Celtic have now lost the past six of these new year derbies and form has usually spiralled out of control in the aftermath. Lou Macari, the manager, requires new players but there is almost no money available to him.

In November directors rejected £17.9 million of new investment which would have seen them lose control without receiving any money personally. In clinging to power, the board retained responsibility for the club's plight.

Given the rancour and confusion they left in their wake, Rangers are entitled to suspect that they have just disabled one of the main contenders for the title. Walter Smith's team will also be cheered to discover that it is still capable of the most appetising football. Prior to Saturday, it had mostly served up stodge this season.

That three of Rangers' four goals were provided by the midfield players, Mikhailichenko and Kuznetsov, the substitute, demonstrated the variety of their play. For once, you could not provide an account of Rangers' entire performance merely by describing Hateley's exploits at centre forward.

The side stroked the ball across the turf rather than pounded it down the middle. Rangers' fluidity was evident above all in the figure of Durie, their £1.2 million signing from Tottenham. He stormed across all areas of the attack but also, on occasion, tormented Celtic with passes from midfield. Durie's markers never did catch up with him.

Despite the exhilaration, however, an Old Firm victory is still no panacea. Rangers have been an able team away from home this season and it is on their own patch, where the opposition do not feel obliged to open out, that victories have been elusive. The ease with which Celtic, who are sparse scorers, troubled Rangers in the second half demonstrated that the defence is still porous.

None the less, the Ibrox team is formidable. Talk of an injury crisis is preposterous for a club able to include nine internationals in its squad on Saturday. While others who are competing for the championship yearn for accomplished new players, Smith need only fret about getting the best out of the many he already possesses.

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish Commentary

Fry's good humour remains unbowed

Southend United 3
Birmingham City 1

By Keith Pike

IT WAS not all bad news for Barry Fry, the manager who three weeks ago swapped the unprepossessing surroundings of Roots Hall for the vast potential of St Andrew's. Fry has backed his former charges to win the first division championship at odds of 66-1. He stands a reasonable chance of collecting.

The good folk of Southend would doubtless delight in his fortune, but Essex Man had other things on his mind on Saturday. An hour before kick-off thousands of supporters were waiting to give Fry a vitriolic welcome home party, and continued their verbal assault from the terraces. They were in good voice, and spiteful mood.

Fry had been one of them for just eight months, earning their affection by transforming relegation certainties into promotion possibilities, but all that was forgotten. The younger fans subjected him to an unrelenting torrent of foul-mouthed abuse, telling him where he could stick his lavish new contract and 20 pieces of silver, but there were contorted faces, too, among the well-dressed wrinklies in the stand.

"I did not know I was so popular," Fry said. After the hate mail and death threats, the reception was "just what I was expecting", but it was a day he was glad to have got behind him, and not just because his new team had taken a fearful battering at the hands of his old one. There were no regrets, though.

"People say they could not understand me going to Birmingham, but a week before Christmas we had just lost five games on the trot and we had a crowd of 13,000, about 5,000 up on average. Three days later, 28,000 turned up. The potential is there. I am not an idiot. I know a lot better managers than me have tried to get it going and failed, but with support like that who knows what can be achieved? If I could take the Southend side to St Andrew's I think there would be 45,000 watching them every week."

Fry was under police orders not to indulge in his trade-mark touchline celebrations for fear of inciting a riot. That was never a realistic event. By the time Peschisolido scored a fluke 88th-minute goal, Fry — and Birmingham — were outclassed and badly demoralised.

Southend moved the ball around sweetly and attacked with pace down the flanks, where Hunt and the highly talented Otto wreaked havoc against pedestrian defenders. It is little wonder that Peter Taylor, Fry's successor, cannot believe his luck. "I told Barry afterwards that he has left me a very good team," he said.

Once Saville, the Birmingham striker, had been sent off in the 21st minute for swinging an arm at Bressington's face, it was only a question of how many Southend would win by, and it would have been a landslide but for the acrobatics of Bennett in the Birmingham goal. Bennett had no chance with the goals Keith Jones, Hunt and Lee eventually put past him, Hunt's blistering 25-yard shot being sandwiched by two goals that were the product of excellent passing movements. Fry was asked how long it would be before Birmingham were as good. "About 30 years," was the reply.

SOUTHEND UNITED (4-4-2): P Sansome — G Poole, A Edwards, G Bressington, C Powell — J Hunt, K Jones, P Gridelet (sub: D Payne, 45min), R Otto — G Jones (sub: A Tilson, 68), J Lee.
BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-3-3): I Bennett — G Parris, C Whyte, D Barnett, R Dryden — E McMinn (sub: R Willis, 45), K Lowe, G Cooper — P Peschisolido, A Saville, D Wallace (sub: D Smith, 63).
Referee: P Danson.

WEEKEND RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Carling Premiership

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
A VILLA 40,903	(0)	0	BLACKBURN Shearer 38	(1)	1
EVERTON 19,579	(0)	0	WEST HAM Breacker 6	(1)	1
IPSWICH Marshall 75 22,355	(0)	1	LIVERPOOL Ruddock 57 Rush 88	(0)	2
MANCHESTER U 44,724	(0)	0	LEEDS	(0)	0
NEWCASTLE Cole 28, 45	(2)	2	MANCHESTER C 36,658	(0)	0
QPR Ferdinand 69 16,858	(0)	1	SHEFFIELD WED Bright 78 Watson 79	(0)	2
SHEFFIELD U Whitehouse 23 (pen) Ward 32	(2)	2	OLDHAM Jobson 45 17,066	(1)	1
SOUTHAMPTON 16,556 Sent off: Benali (Southampton) 63	(0)	0	NORWICH Sutton 44	(1)	1
SWINDON Mutch 90 16,456	(0)	1	CHELSEA Shipperley 19 Stein 44 Wise 89	(2)	3
TOTTENHAM Caskey 43 26,015	(1)	1	COVENTRY Babb 25 Wegerle 77	(1)	2
WIMBLEDON 16,584	(0)	0	ARSENAL Campbell 17 Parlour 23 Wright 55	(2)	3

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Man Utd	24	8	5	0	25	10	9	1	1	24	10	57
2 Blackburn	23	7	3	2	16	8	6	3	2	15	10	45
3 Arsenal	24	7	3	2	17	8	5	4	3	13	5	43
4 Leeds	24	8	2	1	24	13	3	7	3	14	13	42
5 Newcastle	23	7	3	2	24	8	4	3	4	16	13	39
6 Norwich	22	3	3	3	6	7	7	4	2	20	17	37
7 Liverpool	23	7	3	2	21	12	3	3	5	15	18	36
8 QPR	23	6	3	2	22	13	4	2	6	16	18	35
9 Sheff Wed	24	4	6	2	28	16	4	4	4	18	17	34
10 A Villa	23	4	2	5	10	11	5	5	2	16	14	34
11 West Ham	24	5	3	4	12	13	4	3	5	9	15	33
12 Tottenham	24	3	5	4	19	17	4	4	4	15	18	30
13 Coventry	22	4	5	2	10	9	3	4	4	15	17	30
14 Ipswich	23	4	5	2	12	15	3	4	3	10	12	30
15 Wimbledon	23	4	4	4	14	14	3	4	4	11	18	29
16 Everton	24	4	1	7	10	18	3	3	6	10	13	25
17 Chelsea	22	4	3	4	8	9	1	3	7	8	17	21
18 Sheff Utd	24	4	5	3	13	13	0	4	8	7	24	21
19 Man City	23	2	5	4	12	15	2	3	7	8	15	20
20 Oldham	23	2	4	5	13	21	2	3	8	6	20	19
21 Southmptn	24	4	1	7	15	18	1	2	9	8	18	18
22 Swindon	24	2	4	7	12	27	0	5	6	11	26	15

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley 1 Emley 2, Barrow 1 Whitley Bay 0, Boston 6 Gainsborough 1, Chorley 2 Frickley 1, Colwyn Bay 2 Morecambe 3, Fleetwood 2 Marine 3, Hyde 0 Knowsley Utd 0, Leek 2 Horwich 0, Winsford 4 Droylsden 1. Matches postponed: Bridlington v Bishop Auckland, Matlock v Buxton. First division: Ashton Utd 3 Alfreton 2, Bamber Bridge 2 Radcliffe Borough 2, Caernarfon 2 Curzon Ashton 2, Congleton 0 Guiseley 2, Eastwood 1 Warrington 1, Farsley Celtic 2 Gt Harwood 2, Harrogate 1 Netherfield 5, Lancaster 2 Mossley 0, Spennymoor Utd 5 Workington 3, Worksop 4 Goole 4.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Brigg 1 Winterton Rangers 1, Denaby Utd 6 Sheffield 1, Glasshoughton Wel 1 Pontefract Col 0, Hucknall 3 Belper 2, Maltby MW 2 Ashfield Utd 0, Ossett Albion 1 Ossett Town 1, Thackley 2 Eccleshill Utd 1. Matches postponed: North Ferriby Utd v Lincoln Utd, Pickering v Liversedge, Stocksbridge PS 0 Armthorpe Welfare 0.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Atherton LR 1 Newcastle Town 0, Darwen

Endsleigh Insurance League First division

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
BARNSLEY O'Connell 42 Redfearn 55	(1)	2	PORTSMOUTH 8,328	(0)	0
BOLTON Patterson 5 Green 17 Thompson 82 Draper 88 (og)	(2)	4	NOTTS CO Turner 65 Lund 70 11,041	(0)	2
GRIMSBY Groves 85	(0)	1	BRISTOL C 5,469	(0)	0
LEICESTER Speedie 50 Joachim 71 19,615	(0)	2	SUNDERLAND P Gray 88 (pen)	(0)	1
MILLWALL Goodman 47 Verveer 59 Rae 61 (pen)	(0)	3	C PALACE 25,543	(0)	0
NOTTS FOREST Lyttle 47 26,543	(0)	1	CHARLTON McLeary 67	(0)	1
OXFORD Byrne 74 5,763	(0)	1	MIDDLESBROUGH Pollock 48	(0)	1
PETERBORO 10,298	(0)	0	WOLVRHMPTN Regis 89	(0)	1
SOUTHEND Jones 41 Hunt 66 Lee 75 10,729 Sent off: Saville (Birmingham) 20	(1)	3	BIRMINGHAM Peschisolido 88	(0)	1
STOKE Foley 35 Orlygsson 49 20,307	(1)	2	DERBY Gabbiadini 17	(1)	1
TRANMERE Malkin 40 Brannan 81 8,271	(1)	2	WATFORD Furlong 85	(0)	1
WEST BROM Mellon 68 15,138	(0)	1	LUTON Preece 36	(1)	1

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 C Palace	24	8	2	1	21	8	6	2	5	22	19	46
2 Tranmere	25	9	2	2	26	13	4	4	4	11	12	45
3 Millwall	25	8	4	1	22	10	4	3	5	13	18	43
4 Charlton	24	8	2	2	19	6	4	4	4	11	15	42
5 Southend	24	7	3	2	24	12	5	1	6	17	19	40
6 Leicester	24	7	4	1	28	15	4	3	5	12	12	40
7 Stoke	24	9	0	3	20	12	3	3	6	16	26	39
8 Notts F	23	5	5	2	18	14	5	2	4	19	14	37
9 Portsmouth	25	6	4	2	17	10	3	6	4	14	21	37
10 Derby	23	8	0	2	24	15	3	3	7	12	22	36
11 Bristol C	25	6	3	3	17	13	4	3	6	12	17	36
12 Wolvrhmptn	24	5	6	1	21	12	3	5	4	17	15	35
13 Bolton	24	5	5	2	19	13	3	4	5	13	16	33
14 Middlesbro	23	4	4	3	18	8	3	5	4	15	17	30
15 Notts Co	23	7	1	2	19	11	1	2	10	12	32	27
16 Sunderland	23	7	1	4	16	12	1	2	8	5	21	27
17 Grimsby	23	3	7	1	14	8	2	4	6	15	20	26
18 Luton	24	6	0	5	18	13	1	5	7	10	19	26
19 Birmingham	24	6	3	4	18	18	1	2	8	9	19	26
20 West Brom	23	5	3	3	25	18	1	2	7	9	17	25
21 Watford	24	5	4	3	20	19	1	2	9	13	29	24
22 Barnsley	24	3	2	8	12	20	3	4	4	17	21	24
23 Oxford Utd	24	4	3	5	17	19	1	3	8	11	25	21
24 Peterboro	23	3	5	4	13	12	0	2	8	5	19	17

0 Rossendale Utd 3, Eastwood Hanley 1 St Helens 3, Salford 3 Penrith 1; Glossop NE 0 Bradford Pk Ave 0. Match postponed: Chadderton v Flixton. Second division: Blackpool Mechs 0 Haslingden 6, Nelson 3 Squires Gate 0, Irlam 1 Castleton Gab 2, K Chell 2 Cheadle 2. Matches postponed: N Trafford v Ashton, Westhoughton v Atherton Coll.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Bangor 2 Cliftonville 1, Crusaders 4 Ballyclare 0, Distillery 1 Portadown 6, Glenavon 5 Newry 0, Larne 2 Glentoran 2, Linfield 2 Ards 1.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Frome 1 Chippenham 2, Liskeard Athletic 1 Torrington 1. Match postponed: Mangotsfield Utd v Paulton Rovers. First division: Warminster 1 Pewsey Vale 2. Matches postponed: Glastonbury v Welton Rovers, Keynsham v Radstock.

Second division

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
BOURNEMOUTH 6,990	(0)	0	PLYMOUTH Marshall 55	(0)	1
BRADFORD Robson 76	(0)	1	WREXHAM 5,829	(0)	0
BRIGHTON Nogan 31, 63, 90 Funnell 81	(1)	4	CAMBRIDGE UTD Claridge 80 9,753	(0)	1
BRISTOL R Browning 64 6,285	(0)	1	SWANSEA Coates 54 Harris 88	(0)	2
BURNLEY Farrell 24 Russell 50 Francis 55	(1)	3	BLACKPOOL Robinson 5 18,165	(1)	1
CARDIFF Griffith 66 Aizlewood 82 Richardson 89	(0)	3	READING 10,257	(0)	0
EXETER 3,547	(0)	0	HULL Windass 36	(1)	1
FULHAM 9,797	(0)	0	BRENTFORD	(0)	0
HARTLEPOOL Houchen 68, 85	(0)	2	ROTHERHAM 2,101	(0)	0
L ORIENT Carter 87	(0)	1	HUDDERSFLD 4,599	(0)	0
STOCKPORT Francis 8, 78 5,121	(1)	2	BARNET Haag 24 (pen)	(1)	1
YORK Barnes 71	(0)	1	PORT VALE 5,903	(0)	0

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Reading	22	8	3	0	22	8	6	2	3	24	16	47
2 Plymouth	22	8	2	1	24	11	5	2	4	20	18	43
3 Stockport	22	9	0	2	27	9	4	4	3	11	12	43
4 Burnley	23	10	1	1	29	12	2	3	6	10	16	40
5 Port Vale	22	7	3	1	26	11	4	3	5	14	15	39
6 Hull	23	6	3	2	21	12	5	2	5	18	22	38
7 Brentford	23	6	3	2	14	7	4	5	3	15	11	38
8 Bradford	23	7	2	3	21	12	3	3	5	13	20	35
9 York	23	5	3	4	16	10	5	2	4	16	12	35
10 Bristol R	21	5	4	2	17	12	5	1	4	10	11	35
11 Blackpool	23	8	1	3	24	19	2	2	7	14	23	33
12 L Orient	23	6	4	2	18	12	3	2	6	11	20	33
13 Cambs Utd	23	5	3	3	18	10	3	3	6	17	25	30
14 Bournmth	21	6	3	4	15	14	3	3	3	8	9	30
15 Cardiff	21	5	3	3	21	15	1	6	3	12	18	27
16 Wrexham	22	6	3	1	25	14	1	3	8	8	22	27
17 Swansea	22	5	3	2	17	11	2	2	8	9	22	26
18 Exeter	22	5	3	3	25	19	1	4	6	7	24	25
19 Huddersfld	22	3	3	4	9	13	3	3	6	14	17	24
20 Brighton	22	3	5	4	12	13	2	2	6	10	21	22
21 Rotherham	22	3	3	4	14	18	2	3	7	13	22	21
22 Fulham	23	2	4	6	9	13	3	1	7	13	19	20
23 Hartlepool	24	4	2	6	13	18	1	3	8	8	19	20
24 Barnet	23	1	2	9	11	19	1	2	9	13	33	10

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 0 Chelsea 2, Cambridge Utd 0 Southend 0, Norwich 1 Ipswich 0, QPR 2 Portsmouth 2, Watford 2 West Ham 3. Match postponed: Millwall v Fulham. Second division: Brentford 3 Colchester 0, Brighton 1 Crystal Palace 1, Luton 2 Reading 1, Tottenham 1 Wimbledon 4. Matches postponed: Bournemouth v Southampton, Oxford Utd v Swindon.

Third division

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
CHESTERFLD A Morris 9 3,614	(1)	1	SHREWSBURY Spink 25, 55	(1)	2
COLCHESTER 3,170	(0)	0	CHESTER	(0)	0
CREWE Rowbotham 25 Evans 53	(1)	2	DONCASTER 4,480	(0)	0
GILLINGHAM Smillie 78	(0)	1	BURY 3,440	(0)	0
HEREFORD 2,204	(0)	0	CARLISLE	(0)	0
LINCOLN 3,812	(0)	0	SCARBOROUGH White 37	(1)	1
PRESTON Conroy 65 Norbury 88 7,669	(0)	2	SCUNTHORPE Knill 49 Carmichael 89	(0)	2
ROCHDALE Lancaster 9, 40, 74 Whitehall 44 Stuart 82 Taylor 83	(3)	6	NORTHAMPTON Gilzean 66 Harmon 78 2,453	(0)	2
TORQUAY Hathaway 58	(0)	1	MANSFIELD 3,496	(0)	0
WALSALL R McDonald 8 Marsh 18 Lightbourne 45 Lillis 56	(3)	4	WYCOMBE Hemmings 24, 85 6,473	(1)	2

Match postponed: Darlington v Wigan.

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Crewe	21	10	1	0	28	11	4	3	3	18	17	46
2 Preston	21	7	3	2	29	17	4	2	3	20	19	38
3 Walsall	21	5	3	4	20	15	6	2	1	8	4	38
4 Chester	21	5	2	2	12	6	6	2	4	24	16	37
5 Shrewsbury	21	3	4	2	12	11	7	2	3	22	16	36
6 Wycombe	21	5	2	2	17	11	4	6	2	20	20	35
7 Rochdale	20	6	3	2	22	8	3	2	4	14	13	32
8 Scunthorpe	22	5	4	1	28	6	3	4	5	10	12	32
9 Torquay	21	3	6	1	19	16	4	2	3	15	14	31
10 Bury	21	6	2	1	20	9	3	2	7	11	19	31
11 Colchester	21	6	3	3	22	19	2	1	6	15	25	28
12 Lincoln	20	5	2	4	16	16	3	2	4	15	18	28
13 Chesterfld	20	6	1	4	17	13	2	2	5	12	22	27
14 Gillingham	21	6	4	2	17	11	1	2	6	9	17	27
15 Mansfield	21	5	1	3	12	12	2	5	5	12	20	27
16 Carlisle	22	3	3	4	17	15	3	5	4	12	10	26
17 Doncaster	21	5	1	4	17	16	3	1	7	9	17	26
18 Scarboro	21	2	0	8	9	18	4	3	4	13	16	21
19 Hereford	20	3	2	6	17	16	2	2	5	11	23	19
20 Darlington	21	3	3	5	16	17	1	3	6	10	19	18
21 Wigan	19	2	2	5	17	21	2	2	6	9	18	16
22 Northmptn	21	2	3	4	10	12	0	2	10	10	31	11

JEWSON FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Gorleston 0 Diss Town 1, Harwich and Parkeston 1 Cornard Utd 3, Lowestoft 2 Fakenham 1, Norwich Utd 0 Great Yarmouth 3, Soham Town Rangers 5 Haverhill Rovers 4, Watton Utd 0 Wroxham 1, Wisbech 1 Histon 1. Matches postponed: Chatteris v March Town Utd, Halstead v Newmarket, Stowmarket v Sudbury Wanderers. First division: Mildenhall 0 Hadleigh Utd 3. Matches postponed: Cambridge City Res v Thetford, Clacton v Bury Town Res.

REFUGE ASSURANCE MIDLAND LEAGUE: Audley 2 Rists Utd 1, Brereton Social 1 Eccleshall 1, Cannock Town 3 Goldenhill Wdrs 2, Norton Utd 3 Redgate Clayton 3. Matches postponed: Ball Haye Green v Leek CSOB, Brocton v Heath Hayes, Parkway Clayton v Milton Utd.

GM Vauxhall Conference

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
DOVER Walker 33 Walsh 53 Leworthy 75 Jackson 82 1,586	(1)	4	BROMSGROVE Hanks 5 Crisp 18 Radburn 56	(2)	3
GATESHEAD Lamb 53	(0)	1	NORTHWICH 410	(0)	0
KETTERING Price 44 (pen) 3,000	(1)	1	TELFORD Niblett 45 Roberts 76	(1)	2
KIDDRMNSTR 2,517	(0)	0	BATH	(0)	0
MERTHYR Williams 82 1,068	(0)	1	YEOVIL Sanderson 25	(1)	1
SLOUGH Hancock 31 Watts 51 (og) Fiore 66	(1)	3	DAG AND RED Cronin 86 975	(0)	1
STAFFORD Boughey 58, 75 1,111	(0)	2	RUNCORN Thomas 18 Essex 90 (og)	(1)	2
STALYBRIDGE 1,859	(0)	0	MACCLSFLD Sorvel 65 Power 85	(0)	2
WELLING Tucker 60 (og) Abbott 71 1,762 Sent off: L Wye (Woking) 81	(0)	2	WOKING D Brown 64 Steele 90	(0)	2
WITTON 1,144	(0)	0	SOUTHPORT Goulding 25, 25	(2)	2

Match postponed: Halifax v Altrincham.

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Kiddermnstr	22	7	3	1	14	3	4	2	5	16	16	38
2 Southport	21	5	5	1	17	12	5	2	3	16	13	37
3 Kettering	20	4	5	1	10	6	5	3	2	13	7	35
4 Dover	21	8	1	2	21	10	2	1	7	9	17	32
5 Welling	19	5	3	3	13	9	3	4	1	11	7	31
6 Slough	23	7	1	3	21	13	1	6	5	5	12	31
7 Woking	20	7	2	2	21	13	1	5	3	9	17	31
8 Bath	21	3	4	4	19	14	4	5	1	13	7	30
9 Stafford	22	6	3	3	22	15	1	5	4	11	17	29
10 Merthyr	21	4	7	0	16	7	2	4	4	13	16	27
11 Runcorn	20	6	2	2	23	14	0	7	3	12	20	27
12 Macclesfld	20	4	2	4	16	14	4	0	6	12	20	26
13 Gateshead	18	3	4	1	10	6	3	2	5	12	18	24
14 Bromsgrove	18	2	4	3	14	14	4	1	4	16	19	23
15 Dag and Red	18	4	3	1	17	10	1	4	5	6	15	22
16 Yeovil	21	4	2	5	16	14	1	5	4	11	16	22
17 Witton	22	3	4	4	12	14	2	3	6	5	13	22
18 Halifax	18	2	5	1	14	6	2	4	4	16	22	21
19 Northwich	20	2	5	2	8	8	2	4	5	7	17	21
20 Altrincham	17	2	3	3	6	9	2	2	5	6	10	17
21 Telford	18	1	5	2	8	10	2	2	6	7	17	16
22 Stalybridge	16	1	3	4	6	12	1	5	2	7	8	14

Merthyr 2 points deducted

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Wolverhampton 1 Bromley 3

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Bexhill 3 Langney Sports 4, Chichester 1 Littlehampton 1, East Grinstead 1 Oakwood 1, Eastbourne 0 Stamco 3, Peacehaven/Telscombe 4 Hailsham 4, Three Bridges 4 Crowborough Athletic 2, Whitehawk 4 Burgess Hill 1. Second division: Broadbridge Heath 1 Redhill 2, Hassocks 4 Mile Oak 1 (played at Mile Oak), Midhurst and Easebourne 0 Horsham YMCA 4, Saltdean Utd 0 Little Common Albion 0, Sidley Utd 2 Eastbourne Utd 3, Storrington 0 Shoreham 2. Matches postponed: Withdean v Lancing, Worthing Utd v Southwick. Third division: Hurstpierpoint 3 Bosham 3, Seaford 0 Buxted 2.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Senior division cup: Leverstock Green 3 Totternhoe 0, The 61 FC (Luton) 1 London Colney 4, Tring Athletic 2 Risborough Rangers 2, Ampthill 2 Shenley and Loughton 2, Bedford United 0 Winslow Utd 1, Shefford 0 Toddington Rovers 2. First division cup: Eaton Bray 1 Houghton 0, Delco 5 Scot 1, MK County 3 Emberton 2, Stony Stratford 1 Mercedes Benz 1.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 1 Marlow 5, Bromley 3 Basingstoke 0, Carshalton 2 Stevenage 0, Dorking 3 Molesey 1, Enfield 1 Sutton Utd 0, Harrow 2 Hendon 1, Hayes 1 Grays 3, Hitchin 2 Chesham 1, Kingstonian 1 Yeading 2, Wivenhoe 0 St Albans 3, Wokingham 0 Dulwich 1. First division: Barking 0 Wembley 1, Berkhamsted Town 3 Heybridge Swifts 3, Bishop's Stortford 1 Uxbridge 2, Croydon 0 Billericay Town 1, Purfleet 0 Boreham Wood 2, Staines Town 0 Abingdon Town 0, Tooting and Mitcham 0 Maidenhead Utd 0, Windsor and Eton 4 Whyteleafe 3. Match postponed: Ruislip Manor v Walton and Hersham. Second division: Aveley 0 Hemel Hempstead 3, Chertsey 10 Collier Row 2, Hampton 0 Metropolitan Police 1, Malden Vale 3 Saffron Walden 2, Newbury 2 Banstead Athletic 0, Thame Utd 0 Egham 0, Tilbury 1 Aldershot 2, Ware 4 Leatherhead 2, Witham 1 Hungerford 0. Matches postponed: Edgware v Barton Rovers, Lewes v Rainham. Third division: Bracknell 1 Camberley 1, East Thurrock Utd 3 Horsham 0, Feltham and Hounslow 1 Southall 2, Hertford Town 5 Clapton 1, Royston Town 1 Leighton Town 1, Tring Town 0 Northwood 5. Match postponed: Harefield Utd v Oxford City.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton 3 Hednesford 0, Chelmsford 1 Crawley 2, Corby 1 Atherstone 0, Dorchester 1 Bashley 3, Farnborough 3 Waterlooville 0, Gloucester 1 Cheltenham 3, Halesowen 0 Moor Green 1, Hastings 0 Sittingbourne 3, Nuneaton 0 Cambridge City 1, Solihull 4 Gresley Rovers 2, Trowbridge 2 Worcester 2. Midland division: Armitage 2 Tamworth 11, Bilston 1 Stourbridge 3, Dudley 3 Bridgnorth 4, Forest Green Rovers 0 Weston-super-Mare 2, Grantham 0 Rushden and Diamonds 1, Leicester Utd 1 King's Lynn 0, RC Warwick 2 Hinckley 0, Redditch Utd 2 Evesham Utd 0, Sutton Coldfield 2 Bedworth Utd 2, VS Rugby 1 Newport AFC 1. Match postponed: Clevedon v Yate. Southern division: Braintree 1 Sudbury 3, Bury Town 0 Baldock 4, Canterbury City 0 Ashford 4, Fareham 0 Havant 5, Fisher 93 3 Erith and Belvedere 1, Gravesend and Northfleet 6 Burnham 0, Poole 1 Newport IOW 2, Salisbury 3 Weymouth 1, Tonbridge AFC 2 Margate 1, Wealdstone 2 Buckingham 5, Witney 3 Dunstable 1.

Scottish League Premier division

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
CELTIC Collins 46 Nicholas 81 48,506	(0)	2	RANGERS Hateley 1 Mikhailichenko 4, 28 Kuznetsov 76	(3)	4
KILMARNOCK 10,511	(0)	0	MOTHERWELL	(0)	0

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Rangers	25	5	3	4	19	17	7	5	1	23	11	32
2 Aberdeen	24	8	4	0	21	5	2	7	3	11	13	31
3 Motherwell	24	6	3	2	15	9	6	3	4	17	15	30
4 Celtic	24	6	5	2	15	8	3	5	3	15	13	28
5 Hibernian	24	7	3	2	20	11	3	4	5	14	17	27
6 Kilmarnock	24	3	7	2	10	9	4	4	4	11	12	25
7 Dundee Utd	24	3	7	2	12	11	3	5	4	12	14	24
8 Partick	24	5	4	3	15	11	1	5	6	14	24	21
9 Hearts	24	4	4	4	13	13	1	6	5	5	11	20
10 St Johnstn	23	4	3	5	15	18	1	5	5	4	12	18
11 Raith	23	2	6	3	13	18	2	4	6	12	21	18
12 Dundee	23	3	4	5	14	16	1	0	10	8	19	12

First division

Matches postponed: Dumbarton v Clydebank, Falkirk v Stirling, St Mirren v Morton.

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Dunfermline	23	10	0	2	40	12	5	3	3	18	10	33
2 Airdrie	23	7	4	1	21	11	7	1	3	19	10	33
3 Falkirk	21	6	2	2	17	12	6	4	1	21	8	30
4 Clydebank	23	6	3	2	18	14	5	3	4	19	11	28
5 Hamilton	22	7	2	2	22	10	2	4	5	11	22	24
6 St Mirren	22	4	1	5	8	11	5	4	3	19	17	23
7 Stirling	22	5	3	3	15	15	4	1	6	12	19	22
8 Ayr	23	3	4	5	10	16	4	3	4	9	13	21
9 Dumbarton	23	4	3	5	17	18	4	1	6	13	16	20
10 Clyde	23	4	2	5	11	12	1	2	9	10	25	14
11 Morton	22	2	5	5	11	16	1	3	6	10	22	14
12 Brechin	23	3	1	7	9	20	0	1	11	6	27	8

Second division

Home	HT	FT	Away	HT	FT
QUEEN'S PARK O'Neill 8 (pen), 89	(1)	2	ALBION 912	(0)	0
STRANRAER Ferguson 75 1,250	(0)	1	QN OF SOUTH Thomson 64 (pen) Mallan 83	(0)	2

Matches postponed: Berwick v Meadowbank, East Fife v Cowdenbeath, East Stirling v Alloa.

	Home P	W	D	L	F	A	Away W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Stranraer	20	9	0	2	24	11	4	3	2	11	8	29
2 Alloa	20	4	4	2	7	5	5	3	2	16	12	25
3 Stenhsemuir	19	5	3	1	17	7	5	0	5	12	15	23
4 Meadowbk	19	4	5	1	17	11	4	1	4	12	13	22
5 Q of South	20	5	0	5	26	14	3	3	4	17	14	21
6 Forfar	19	4	3	4	15	13	4	2	2	14	9	21
7 East Fife	20	5	3	2	23	15	4	0	6	12	15	21
8 Berwick	19	4	3	2	17	10	2	4	4	12	14	19
9 Arbroath	20	4	3	3	19	18	3	1	6	7	20	18
10 E Stirling	20	3	1	6	15	22	3	4	3	14	15	17
11 Queen's Pk	21	5	3	3	16	14	0	3	7	9	30	16
12 Montrose	18	3	1	4	7	9	3	2	5	18	23	15
13 Albion	20	1	2	6	6	15	3	4	4	12	14	14
14 Cowdenbth	19	0	2	7	9	17	4	3	3	15	16	13

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Galway 1 St Patrick's Ath 2 (Saturday result), Bohemians 2 Cobh Ramblers 0, Drogheda Utd 0 Limerick 2, Monaghan Utd 1 Dundalk 0, Shamrock Rovers 0 Derry City 1. Match postponed: Cork City v Shelbourne.

PORTUGAL: G Vicente 1 Beira Mar 1, Salgueiros 3 Farense 2, Vitoria Setubal 3 P de Ferreira 0, Belenenses 0 Braga 0, Estrela Amadora 2 Famalicao 0, V Guimaraes 2 Estoril 0, Sporting Lisbon 1 M Funchal 1, Boavista 1 Porto 1, U Madeira 0 Benfica 2.

ITALY: Cagliari 2 Lecce 1, Genoa 1 Cremonese 0, Inter Milan 1 Atalanta 2, Lazio 1 Sampdoria 1, Piacenza 1 Parma 1, Reggiana 0 AC Milan 1, Torino 1 AS Roma 1, Udinese 0 Juventus 3.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	2

FORECAST: Telephone claims required for 20½pts; dividend forecast is very good with four 1-1 draws and one high-score draw

Divisional final remains useful exercise


Probyn: tough opponent

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

IT HAS become fashionable to deride the deciding match in the CIS divisional championship at Twickenham today, because of the circumstances which surrounded its original postponement from November and the long list of unavailable players which has affected the competing teams from London and South-East and South and South-West.

Looked at through the other end of the telescope, however, it offers an unexpected opportunity to players who all too often occupy reserve positions on a stage which many of them may yet occupy in a full England jersey. Mike Catt, for example, whose season has gone from milestone to milestone, has never played at Twickenham and now finds himself tested against two of the most knowing heads in the midfield business, Fran Clough and Huw Davies.

Another outing for Chris Clark against Jeff Probyn will do the young Bath prop no harm at all (easier to say from the stand than from the close proximity of the front row) while Paul Hull's game at stand-off half for the South-West, who are defending the divisional championship they won last season for the first time, will indicate how this adaptable player is maturing as a tactician.

We know about the Andrews, the Moores, the Barneses and so on. Now other stars may twinkle with London having only six of those who helped beat the Midlands 23-14 on October 30; the South-West can call up ten of those who played in the 29-16 win over the North, including Derek Eves, the Bristol flanker who is preferred to Andy Robinson in a match whose second half will be televised live. Although it can be argued that today's XVs are scarcely representative of their respective divisions, enough incentives exist to make this one of most interesting days of the championship.

LONDON AND SOUTH-EAST: A Buzza (Wasps), D O'Leary (Harlequins), F Clough (Wasps), H Davies (Wasps), J Alexander (Harlequins); G Gregory (Nottingham), S Bates (Wasps, captain); G Holmes (Wasps), G Botterman (Saracens), J Probyn (Wasps), M Greenwood (Wasps), A Snow (Harlequins), A Diprose (Saracens), M White (Wasps), C Sheasby (Harlequins).

SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST: J Callard (Bath); P Holford (Gloucester), N Beal (Northampton), M Catt (Bath), A Lumsden (Bath); P Hull (Bristol), R Hill (Bath); C Clark (Bath), G Dawe (Bath, captain), D Hinkins (Bristol), S Ojomoh (Bath), R West (Gloucester), A Blackmore (Bristol), D Eves (Bristol), D Sims (Gloucester).

"It has been difficult to get together but we got to grips with it early and we have had a very positive response from the players," John Lockyer, chairman of the South-West who were so embarrassed by the clash of dates in November when England A played the All Blacks with so many South-Westerners, said.

"We knew from the start which players would not be available but for some of these players taking part this will be the biggest game of their careers. We have a championship to defend and we are looking forward to it."

Six third-division clubs have grabbed the opportunity to play postponed Courage championship matches but in Wales there is a full Heineken League programme, headed by the clash at St Helen's between Swansea and Neath. Victory for the Welsh All Blacks would permit them to overtake Swansea at the head of the first division, as well as luxuriate in a "double" having won the first meeting 40-18 in September.

Neath won't have a psychological advantage despite their earlier win as we didn't perform that day," Roger Blyth, chairman of Swansea's selectors, said. "Home advantage will be a big factor. Tickets for the stand and enclosure were sold out weeks ago and there should be a huge crowd."

Certain players overlooked by the Welsh selectors also have a chance to shine: Robert Jones, Swansea's scrum half for one, and Brian Williams, the mobile Neath prop, for another. "Swansea have a good set of backs but if we manage to put them under pressure it will be a different story," Kevin Phillips, Neath's assistant coach, said.

The Canadian Rugby Union has offered two games to Wales in June, en route to their tour of the Pacific islands. The first, against Ontario on June 8, is scheduled for Burlington and a full international is planned for June 11 at Fletcher's Fields near Toronto.

Chalmers faces big challenge in battle of stand-offs

By Alan Lorimer

THE Scotland trial match that takes place at Murrayfield today is certain to produce an fascinating battle between the opposing stand-off halves, Gregor Townsend in the Blues side and Craig Chalmers in the Reds, for the international position against Wales in Cardiff on January 15.

The undoubted talent of Townsend has been given recognition with selection for the senior trial side. The challenge is for Chalmers to respond with a performance that can convince the selectors of a return to form and fitness. There is more than fitness, however, separating the players in what is the first challenge Chalmers has faced for the Scotland stand-off position since he first came to the forefront of senior rugby more than five years ago.

Disenchanted by the sterility of a game based on lofted kicks, the selectors have turned to Townsend for a return to running rugby, and if the Gala player can achieve this style of game then the No 10 jersey will be his.

That might not rule out Chalmers, who could yet find himself in another position for the international. The realisation of such a scenario, however, is bound to put pressure on Tan Jardine, at inside centre in the Blues team, to prove he can offer more than solid tackling.

Chalmers's future may hinge on the quality of possession he receives from the Reds pack in which the loss of Damian Cronin will be vital.

Neil Edwards, his replacement, however, will bring to the junior side the kind of authentic second-row play that could do much to help Andy Macdonald reproduce the form he showed for Scotland A against New Zealand.

The Reds also have a useful-looking front row, among whom Danny Herrington, at tight-head prop, could benefit from the trial game. Herrington will provide a thorough test for Alan Sharp, the Blues' loose-head prop, while on the other side of the front row, Peter Wright can demonstrate his return to form with a convincing display of scrummaging against the bulky Alan Watt.

Scotland will need solidity in the front row if they are to include Doddie Weir in the team for Cardiff. Weir, after being dropped once from the Scotland squad this season, is back in contention in his old position at lock.

Rob Wainwright is the preferred choice for No 8 in the Blues team and it seems likely that he will play alongside Iain Morrison and either Derek Turnbull or Peter Walton, the opposing blindside flankers.

BLUES: G Hastings (Watsonians) captain; A Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), I Jardine (Stirling County), K Logan (Stirling County); G Townsend (Gala), A Nicol (Dundee High School FP); A Sharp (Bristol), K Milne (Heriot's FP), P Wright (Boroughmuir), D Turnbull (Hawick), S Munro (Glasgow High/Kelvinside), G Weir (Melrose), I Morrison (London Scottish), R Wainwright (Edinburgh Academicals).

REDS: M Dods (Gala); K Milligan (Stewart's-Melville FP), S Nichol (Selkirk), D Wyllie (Stewart's-Melville FP), D Stark (Boroughmuir); C Chalmers (Melrose), R Redpath (Melrose); A Watt (Glasgow High/Kelvinside), K McKenzie (Stirling County) captain, D Herrington (Dundee High School FP), P Walton (Northampton), N Edwards (Northampton), A Macdonald (Heriot's FP), I Smith (Gloucester), C Hogg (Melrose).

REPLACEMENTS: Backs: D Barrett (West of Scotland), G Burns (Stewart's-Melville FP), A Donaldson (Currie), D Patterson (Edinburgh Academicals), R Shepherd (Edinburgh Academicals), B Swan (Gala), F Swanson (Edinburgh Academicals), A Turner (Stirling County). Forwards: J Amos (Gala), S Campbell (Dundee High School FP), J Hay (Hawick), M Livingstone (Heriot's FP), D McIvor (Edinburgh Academicals), J Manson (Dundee High School FP), M Nonel (Stirling County), S Paul (Heriot's FP), S Reid (Boroughmuir), M Scott (Edinburgh Academicals), F Wallace (Glasgow High/Kelvinside).

Lineout weakness gives Ireland cause for concern

Whites	25
Blues	14

By David Hands

THE first task of any selection panel is to pick a side that wins a national trial. Six years ago, England failed to do so and struggled for the ensuing six months. They have not had one since, but the Irish and the Scots sustain the notion even though the representative programme in both countries has now become so busy.

Ireland's trial at a bright but chilly Lansdowne Road yesterday came on top of a frenetic five days which embraced an A international followed by three days "all-weather" training in Wicklow (happily the Irish Rugby Union laid on a party for wives and girlfriends to celebrate the new year).

A spate of injuries (eight first choice players were unavailable) prevented the reselection of the side which beat Romania 25-3 in November but the Irish selectors did their best to keep that XV together and the Whites rewarded their faith in winning by two goals, a try and two penalty goals to a try and three penalty goals. Whether, in doing so, they clarified the problem areas of a side which will go to Paris on January 15 as rank outsiders remains to be seen: the way in which the lineout drifted away from the Whites in the second half, for example, must have been alarming.

But neither side proved capable of sustaining any degree of pace more than a moment or two. Significantly the Whites' only try came from their first continuous passage of play and involved a linking pass from Brian Robinson so perceptive that his selection at open-side flanker could almost be justified by that one movement alone.

Unlike the display of heart and passion against England last March this was a measured game from both teams, with young Alan McGowan at stand-off half for the Blues demonstrating a sure touch with his left-footed line kicking, and confirming the promise *of two seasons* ago in Ireland's under 21 team. He will not displace Eric Elwood but there is potential, allied to the vision at centre of Mark McCall which both the senior incumbents seem to lack.

Whether you could call David Tweed, at 34, a player of potential is arguable but he had an outstanding first half at lock for the Whites and looked a more than adequate replacement should Neil *Francis's rib injury fail to* mend. However, the Blues came to dominate that area after the interval, notably through Steve McKinty, here No 8, but who plays blindside flanker for Bangor, and the junior side crept up to within two points at 13-11, after trailing only 6-3 in a first half notable for more penalty misses than Elwood is wont to suffer.

He was adrift four times, failures compounded by Conor O'Shea, who took the wrong line in a counter-attack which left Simon Geoghegan prey to the cover. McGowan, meanwhile, coolly slotted his first penalty goal and had Tyrone Howe possessed the speed of, say, Underwood, then the Blues would have turned round in the lead; as it was Geoghegan caught him five metres out and Elwood finally discovered his kicking boots.

A series of rampaging drives paved the way for Robinson and O'Shea to despatch Geoghegan to the line but McCall lofted a finely-weighted kick for Woods to sprint onto for a deserved try.

Had McGowan kicked a long penalty goal the Blues would have led. Instead the Whites, not all of whom looked as fit as they might have done, picked themselves up: Elwood hit a post with a penalty and Wallace, who did not have the best control, came off his wing to send Cunningham over beneath the posts.

Bradley left the field in the dying minutes with a damaged cheekbone and, in his brief occupation at scrum half Rolland fired off half a dozen passes a class above what had preceded them. And it was his rolling kick into the corner which allowed Kingston to burrow through onto a wayward lineout tap for the final score.

TEAMS

WHITES: C O'Shea (Lansdowne); R Wallace (Garryowen), V Cunningham (St Mary's College), P Danaher (Garryowen), S Geoghegan (London Irish); E Elwood (Lansdowne), M Bradley (Constitution, captain); N Popplewell (Greystones), T Kingston (Dolphin), P Clohessy (Young Munster), C Pim (Old Wesley), P Johns (Dungannon), D Tweed (Ballymena), B Robinson (Ballymena), N Mannion (Lansdowne) Bradley replaced by A Rolland (Blackrock College; 80 min).

BLUES: J Staples (London Irish), T Howe (Dungannon), B Walsh (Cork Constitution), M McCall (Bangor, captain), N Woods (Blackrock College), A McGowan (Blackrock College), A Matchett (Ballymena); P Soden (Cork Constitution), K Wood (Garryowen), G Halpin (London Irish), K O'Connell (Sunday's Well), B Rigney (Greystones), J Etheridge (Blackrock College), E Halvey (Shannon), S McKinty (Bangor). Rigney replaced by S Jameson (St Mary's College; 41); Halvey replaced by K Potts (St Mary's College; 66).

Referee: B Stirling (Ulster)


Gerallt Phillips, the London Welsh scrum half, is well protected by his forwards as he whips his pass away

Charvis justifies pre-match billing

London Welsh	40
Bedford	10

By Barry Trowbridge

THERE were strong hints in the match programme that Colin Charvis had earned himself a position of high regard at Old Deer Park and he added to it with interest on Saturday with a magnificent all-round performance at open-side flanker as London Welsh outscored Bedford by five tries to one.

Welsh started with only nine of the men beaten at Llanelli last Monday and Bedford were without, among others, all six who have scored in the Courage Club Championship this season. But the players provided a contest that looked in need of a pick-me-up only in the last quarter. Charvis, too, faded into the shadows after an hour, but had a final say with the last of his charging runs, setting up his back row colleague, Rowan Westlake, for a try after Nick Cedarwell had acted as link.

When Welsh used a full lineout, more often than not the ball went long and was taken cleanly by Charvis, and when they used just Peacock and either Fletcher or Davies, his replacement, the quality of possession was so good that there were plenty of opportunities for Charvis to be used as a battering end effective outside centre.

Only once did his handling let him down, a two-man overlap going to waste when he knocked on unhindered on his ten-metre line just after a restart; but as he had scored the try that created the situation and had already made ground when fielding the kick-off before setting up second-phase ball, it hardly seemed a crime. Especially as Welsh were 20-7 ahead.

Chris Rees, the referee, despite denting his popularity by awarding a couple of scrums to Bedford when they apparently took the ball into a maul, left nobody in doubt of the reasons for his decisions and to everyone's approval, after some lineout shenanigans a couple of minutes from time, ignored a quite justifiable outcry of industrial language when it was suffixed by "Sir".

London Welsh still have a mountain to climb before reaching the heights of the early Seventies, but confidence is high, the club is as accommodating as it ever was and better times cannot be too far away, especially if 1994 continues the way it started.

As for Bedford, they go to Blackheath this afternoon for a league match when more familiar names will be back on the team sheet. With promotion to the second division a priority, their year will realistically start then.

SCORERS: London Welsh: Tries: Cedarwell, Sandilands (2), Charvis, Westlake. Conversions: R Phillips (3). Penalty goals: R Phillips (2). Dropped goal: R Phillips. Bedford: Try: Fletcher. Conversion: Tushingham. Penalty goal: Tushingham.

LONDON WELSH: J Williams; P Walters, N Cedarwell, G Lelau, A Sandilands; R Phillips, G Phillips; M Pritchard, B Stork, A Andrews, R Westlake; J Fletcher, G Peacock, C Charvis, A Newcombe. Fletcher replaced by J Davies (29min); G Phillips replaced by D Shufflebotham (68); Andrews replaced by M Herbert (78).

BEDFORD: J Wilkinson; M Cook, J Thorne, J Chandler, I Fletcher; R Tushingham, T Taylor; K Houghton, M Shera, K Bates, K Webster, M Wright, C Wright, T Webster, S Binnington. Thorne replaced by J Bostock (17); Chandler replaced by D Goodwin (80).

Referee: R C Rees (London).

Corless hunts for talent

Moseley	3
Gloucester	20

By Peter Bills

PRECIOUS little has disturbed the somnolence of rugby union's holiday period and this lethargic canter on the first day of 1994 never threatened to break the pattern.

Yet this victory, flawed as it was, gave Gloucester their sixth win in seven matches, a run of form unimaginable earlier in the season when Barrie Corless, the club's new director of rugby, found wrong attitudes at Kingsholm.

"Early in the season our play was sloppy," he said. "The players had to concentrate more and work harder under pressure for longer periods in training. Now, through that, they are playing with a greater intensity."

Corless, an England international with Moseley during his playing days, is seeking to make the Gloucester area a centre of excellence by bringing in junior clubs to work together, pool facilities and provide a ladder of improvement for both players and coaches.

"If I can get the structure working more efficiently in the area, with say 50 of the best youngsters in all age groups, then Gloucester could rule the roost for years, all on local talent," he said. "The junior clubs would benefit because they would share young players we train up and improve".

Both clubs recognised that motivation was lacking for Saturday's game, which was a far cry from tussles between the two in days gone by. "This was one of the big games of the season when I played here. And the side we put out then was as good as any in England" Corless said.

Today, grass creeps intrusively down the broken old terracing at Moseley and there is an unmistakable impression of a club struggling to live up to its high traditions.

Corless sees little reason for optimism. "The loss of grammar schools which played rugby has been a serious blow for this club. Once they took away that strong school structure the rugby club was really exposed."

Today, Moseley's best players are outsiders: Teague, Moon, Bonney and McKenzie. England's second largest city seems incapable of producing any more quality players, just as Moselely were unable to find sufficient cohesion for a try. Hamlin kicked one penalty but missed three others. Nicholson, the recipient of a gift, and Miles scored Gloucester's tries.

SCORERS: Moseley: Penalty goal: Hamlin. Gloucester: Tries: Nicholson, Miles. Conversions: Smith (2). Penalty goals: Smith (2).

MOSELEY: C Dosset; D Hanson, J Bonney, A Houston, L McKenzie; M Hamlin, R Moon; M Linnett, D Bell, R Wareham, C Raymond, S Lloyd, M Bright, M Ord, P Shillingford.

GLOUCESTER: T Smith, J Wooton, D Cummins, D Caslee, M Nicholson; A Johnson, B Fenley; A Windo, J Hawker, A Deacon, P Glanville, P Miles, S Devereaux, P Ashmead, R Baxter. Nicholson replaced by M Hannaford (39min).

Referee: S Womersley (East Midlands).

Bayfield starts comeback

By David Hands

MARTIN Bayfield may be puffing by the end of the game at Franklin's Gardens today, but that will not bother him, so long as he is still there when the final whistle goes between Northampton and Nottingham. For this bank holiday friendly marks the return of the giant England lock after nearly four months away.

Provided all goes well, the enforced rest will prove beneficial, even if Bayfield, 27, missed the win over New Zealand in November. There is enough rugby to come in the next 18 months to satisfy the most starved palate. Just for starters, Northampton's league and cup programme over the next three Saturdays features Leicester, Bath and Gloucester.

"I have not been working towards this date particularly," the amiable Bedford policeman said, "but to stand any chance of getting back into the England side for the five nations' championship I have to start playing as soon as I can."

In fact, this is slightly earlier than he envisaged and, with England's first match not until February 5, he has every opportunity of challenging for the place occupied so competently against the All Blacks by Nigel Redman.

Bayfield's injury problems arose from a heavy fall onto his neck and shoulder while playing against Otago for the British Isles last May. He completed the tour but failed to realise that the injury was waiting to reappear. There were unwelcome signs early in the new season until, playing against Bath on September 18, the pain proved too much.

A ruptured disc in Bayfield's neck impacted on to a nerve that effectively shut down, sustaining damage to the roots and loss of muscular strength. Gradually he has built up the area through an intensive series of exercises, under the direction of Don Gatherer, a former physiotherapist to England. "My neck and shoulders will be stronger as a result of all the work," Bayfield said, which will be bad news for opponents he already overshadows.

"I'm not setting my heart on February 5 because I'm on a pretty tight schedule," he said. "I have five games in which to get back into the side, but I'm not going to jeopardise the long-term future."

Geoff Cooke, the England manager, has consistently stressed that Bayfield's long-term welfare is the primary consideration.

Cooke's new year would doubtless be complete if Jeremy Guscott, his other injury doubt, were to declare his fitness too. But the Bath centre, sidelined by a groin strain, seems likely to miss the start of the championship at least.

THE TIMES

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THEATRE page 26
Spalding Gray: proof that the avant-garde is alive and well and living in New York City

ARTS

BOOKS page 27
Garrison Keillor, the chronicler of Lake Wobegon, takes on the battle of the sexes



BOOKS: **Nicolette Jones** looks back at the publishing sensations of 1993 and forward to an exciting new crop promised for 1994



Vikram Seth: His literary oeuvre outsold John le Carré



Joan Collins: She is publishing a book of her beauty tips



Alan Clark: A bestselling portrait of the political scene



Baroness Thatcher: Rumours of a £3 million advance

The year of the blockbuster

Bibulous bibliophiles had a few good reasons to unbottle the bubbly in 1993. It was the year that the book — continually under assault from economic pressures and much-publicised high-tech competition and low levels of literacy — held its own.

Some upmarket works sold as well as blockbusters. Most publishers reported profits up on 1992. Despite the threat of two budgets which might have imposed VAT on books, two chancellors decided not to tax reading. Some books whose vast advances drew scorn in 1992 earned enough in 1993 to silence the cynics. And the American and British leaders saw fit to defend the freedom of the writer by meeting Salman Rushdie. Hope blossomed in Bloomsbury.

Baroness Thatcher belatedly did her bit for the book trade with the publication of the first volume of her memoirs, *The Downing Street Years*. In 1992 it was the exposure, in different senses, of the Princess of Wales and Madonna that most excited book-buyers. Lady Thatcher's revelations were tamer, but in 1993 only Delia Smith cooked up a more successful recipe for hardback book sales.

After John Stalker was enlisted to advise on pre-publication security of the ex-premier's book, and after a leak to the *Daily Mirror* suggested that she was ruder about her cabinet ministers than she in fact proved to be, appetites were whetted to a surprising extent. Her advance of a rumoured £3 million may not have been as wild as it seemed: there is after all another volume to come — the one that might even mention her mother.

Also a bestseller was Alan Clark's memoirs, in which his most striking contribution to a portrait of the political scene may be his improbable enthusiasm for Thatcher's ankles, and to literature the toe-curling euphemism of the year, "globes". Global warming could take on a whole new meaning.

1993 was, in literary terms, the year of the hostage. John McCarthy and Jill Morrell (*Some Other Rainbow*) caused more hearts to flutter than did either Jeffrey Archer or Jilly Cooper. Terry Waite (*Taken On Trust*) outran Dick Francis by a length. And McCarthy's cellmate Brian Keenan's *An Evil Cradling* did time on the paperback bestseller lists, where the only other non-fiction paperback to beat it was Jung Chang's *Wild Swans*, the story of three generations of her family in China.

It was also another year for sequels. Mrs Danvers continued to intimidate Max's young bride in Susan Hill's bestselling *Mrs de Winter*, a follow-up to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*; Elizabeth Bennet had trouble producing an heir for Mr Darcy in Emma Tennant's *Pemberley*, a sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*; and — a greater travesty than either — William Horwood followed Kenneth Grahame into the Wild Wood in search of Mole's nephew in *The Willows in Winter*, the sequel to *The Wind in the Willows*.

It was a year for original paperbacks: one, Jeff Torrington's *Swing, Hammer, Swing!*, praised as a *Ulysses* set in Glasgow, won the Whitbread Book of the Year Award. Among the year's other successes, Toni Morrison won the Nobel Prize for literature, and the longest novel published in English since *Clarissa*, Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy* — a 1,400-page literary oeuvre that prompted comparisons with Tolstoy and George Eliot — outsold John le Carré (*The Night Manager*) and Wilbur Smith (*River God*). The £250,000 advance paid for Seth's book by Phoenix House was justified by sales of (so far) more than 120,000 copies at £20 each.

But the book was the subject of further controversy when it was omitted from the Booker Prize shortlist with the criticism that, for all its merits, it was inadequately edited. Although *A Suitable Boy* was shortlisted for *The Guardian* Fiction Prize, all the year's other top fiction prizes eluded it as well.

> 'More royal revelations will come from Diana's former nanny Mary Clarke'

Meanwhile the Booker winner, Roddy Doyle's *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*, sold many more copies (some 210,000 — 135,000 since the award) than any previous winner in the prize's 21-year history. Booksellers were pleased, as was a surprised Germaine Greer, who had declared on Channel 4 television that the book was "too good to win the Booker Prize".

Roddy Doyle was the best *selling* of all Booker winners, but earlier in the year Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children* was judged simply the best: chosen as the "Booker of Bookers". It narrowly beat William Golding's *Rites of Passage* — an ousting that Golding himself, who died in June, did not live to witness. Rushdie's own foray into judging last year was less well received: literary critics largely gave the Best of Young British promotion — a selection by Rushdie, A.S. Byatt, publisher Bill Buford and bookseller John Mitchinson of 20 young novelists — a cool reception. The public responded even less well, and sales showed no obvious improvement. One regional bookseller commented: "I really don't think people take very kindly to the idea of being told what they ought to read by a group of London-based intellectuals".

Undeterred, the Arts Council, Poetry Society and Radio 1 are this year bringing us a similar promotion of poetry: New Generation Poets. Six judges (a slightly larger group of London-based intellectuals) under the chairmanship of Melvyn Bragg will select 20 collections representing the best of British, to be announced this month, with nationwide readings throughout May.

Other books the trade is pinning its hopes on this year include a new book by Joan Collins, not this time a novel, competing on her sister Jackie's territory, but a book of beauty tips. *My Secrets*, published at the end of this month, may help to fulfil some narcissistic New Year's resolutions. It will no doubt sell well since the author will be here for promotions and signings. *Odd Man Out*, Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs's autobiography — his second — is also published this month. But he won't be coming home to Britain for a promotional tour.

Next month there are new novels from Mary Wesley (*An Imaginative Experience*), Fay Weldon (*Affliction*) and Booker winner J.M. Coetzee (*The Master of Petersburg*). Among the celebs, Stephen Fry has a second novel in the spring, and model Naomi Campbell will have her name on a ghosted blockbuster in the autumn. Expect behind-the-cameras revelations from both *Fuzzy Monsters: Fear and Loathing at the BBC* by Chris Horrie and Steve Clarke (February) and from John Naughton's biography of John Birt in the spring. And more royal revelations will come from Diana's former nanny Mary Clarke.

Will these offerings be enough to water the book trade's green shoots? Last year's results showed improvements in all but two general publishers' business; one of those two, old-established Hodder & Stoughton (which had lost its top sellers, Jeffrey Archer and James Herbert, to a rival company in January) was promptly "merged" with a rich young upstart company, Headline, for £49 million. Hodder Headline now enters 1994 from a position of strength.

Booksellers' fortunes were more mixed in 1993. Among them, Terry Maher, of Pentos (Dillons and Athena bookshops), the man who has led the fight for the abolition of the price-maintaining Net Book Agreement, left his job after company losses. But the threat to the NBA has not gone with him. This year the Office of Fair Trading is to reconsider a 1989 decision to maintain the status quo. If the OFT changes its mind, the trade will have less to celebrate at the end of 1994.

Book sales, page 3

TELEVISION REVIEW

Will Grace do the Eliotts a favour?

How foolish one felt, how gullible. At the end of the last series of **House of Eliott**, with the climactic dockside embarkation of Beatrice and Evangeline Eliott for an American tour ("Do you think Jack will come, Bea?" "I don't know, Evie, but I can't see him (sob)") one had jumped to the wrong conclusions. Series three would take place in America!

Those onward-and-upward Eliott sisters (Stella Gonet and Louise Lombard) would be feted by New York, loved by the doodle dandies, and possibly even introduced to cocaine. Maybe Cole Porter would write songs about them. Their frocks would be worn by such luminaries as Dorothy Parker, whose wit would be temporarily rendered insensate by the utilitarian flatness of the show's scriptwriting.

So one grew excited, impatient. The expense would be worth it, if only for the absence of Jack — no more scenes of career woman Bea (Gonet) smarting at the hurtful sacrifice of her beloved hubby. Start a new life, dear! You've been in a rut!

So imagine one's disappointment when last night's first episode (BBC1) dispensed with the American tour in the first five minutes. A few wild young things doing the charleston in spangly frocks, to a red hot jazz band, and this was your lot.

The man from Sears Roebuck made a speech of appreciation: "As you know, Beatrice and Evangeline Eliott sail for England tomorrow... The ready-to-wear collection has been an enormous success... blah blah... Sears Roebuck proud to be associated... blah... To Beatrice and Evangeline, the House of Eliott!" Miserably, I stopped scanning the cast list for F. Scott and Zelda. I noted Evangeline's kiss-curl and energetic black-bottom technique, but refused to be consoled.

Back in England, it was raining and everything was back to normal (except that rain is a new feature, and much was made of it). Seamstress Madge got into trouble with the other girls in the work-room for banging on about America, which was unfair. Returning from an extended haute couture trip with only the tiniest of tiny suitcases (adequate for maybe a teddy and a pair of shoes), Madge still produced magnificent exotic presents for her chums, including rayon stockings, Havana cigars and maple syrup.

Meanwhile the Eliott fortunes received their usual knock-back. No other television drama relies so heavily on the gooseberry-in-a-lift approach to plotting: up and down go the Eliotts, up and down. Returning from their American success, they discover that Maison Gilles (arch-rival fashion house) has made hay in their absence. Damn. Added to which, the Eliotts' surprisingly faithless tired-looking *vendeuse* Alice has walked out, indeed joined the opposition. Double damn. Jack (ho hum) is uncontactable. Triple damn. Decked out in a fabulous array of different frocks, the girls purse their dark glossy lips against a sea of troubles. "Maybe we just under-estimated the importance of being here ourselves," ponders Evie.

Bright spot on the horizon is the new ambitious trainee designer, Grace Keeble (Melanie Ramsay), the House of Eliott's first true brush with upward mobility. The sort of girl who says "drorins" for drawings, and occasionally utters the smutty word "frock", Grace is lively, with a jaunty M-shaped 1920s fringe. Moreover, last night she accused the astounded Eliotts of "pulling the ladder up after them" — which, being the first ever recorded instance of imagery in *House of Eliott* dialogue, can only bode well for the future.

LYNNE TRUSS



Stuffy: Bea (Stella Gonet), left, and Evie (Louise Lombard)

LONDON CONCERTS

Comedy is no laughing matter

King's Consort
Wigmore Hall

PERGOLESI's popular Stabat Mater has tempted many a soprano and mezzo to tackle the solo roles; often ill-advisedly, however, with even the starriest of names coming a cropper.

There are certainly operatic elements in the work, but the style it demands is one commensurate with the scale of early 18th-century sacred music rather than 19th-century grand opera.

Fortunately, both the soloists in the performance given by the King's Consort, directed by Robert King, are very much at home in this repertory, and there were none of the painful disjunctions of style that are still all too frequently visited upon us.

The soprano, Susan Gritton, is a comparative newcomer, but she has, in the last couple of years, established a reputation as a stylish interpreter of a broad range of music, from Purcell to Vaughan Williams.

Her voice blended ideally with that of the countertenor James Bowman, each imitating the other's ornaments and expressive nuances with superlative artistry.

The grief-stricken appoggiaturas of the soprano's "Vidit suum", in which the Mother of Jesus watches as her son's spirit is yielded up, were deeply felt, and the countertenor's following "Eia Mater" was equally poignant.

The violin tone of David Woodcock, leading the Consort, inclined to the acidic, especially in the vibrato-less sustained notes of "Sancta mater". This is largely a matter of taste, and it may have worried some more than others; personally, I was disturbed more by what sounded to my ears like out-of-tuneness — though I accept that there is a subjective dimension to intonation as well.

Another questionable aspect was the vigorously buffa style in which "Quae moerebat" was delivered. The influence of comic opera is undeniably there, in spite of the mourning and grieving of the text. But can it be right to play up the comedy so brazenly with light bowstrokes and jocular crescendi and diminuendi?

A closely related work of Pergolesi's is the Salve Regina, excellently sung by Susan Gritton. Bowman, for his part, gave the much better known Salve Regina of Domenico Scarlatti: a somewhat low-key performance (literally as well as emotionally), but one characterised by the impressive range of stylistic expression of which Bowman is a master.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Siberian cold comfort

Philharmonia/Katz
Albert Hall

PERHAPS a more astute choice of conductor than Arnold Katz might have enabled the Philharmonia Orchestra to compensate for a lack of preparation with a sense of daring and spontaneity in this Albert Hall concert, held to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of Igor Oistrakh's western debut.

Instead, Katz, who has served time — 36 years of it — conducting the Novosibirsk Symphony Orchestra in Siberia, gave a wooden beat at wooden tempos and with wooden phrasing. Not surprisingly the music also seemed wooden and lifeless, the last quality one would associate with works like Beethoven's *Leonora* Overture No 3 or to the same composer's normally warm-hearted Violin Concerto.

Oistrakh duly appeared to play the solo part in the Beethoven Concerto and also, after the interval, in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. Sadly, Oistrakh played the Beethoven as though he were as tired and bored as everyone else. Few, if any, of his phrases took wing, and the slow movement was so slow and inflexible that sometimes nothing seemed to be happening at all. Then in the finale he adamantly refused to admit a sense of humour into the music.

An unvaried tone quality, beautiful in itself but after not very long rather tedious, did not help Oistrakh's, or Beethoven's, cause either. It was almost inevitable that the Tchaikovsky should receive better treatment than this but, my senses already dulled beyond rescue, I did not hang around to find out.

STEPHEN PETTITT



ROCK REVIEW

On the beat of optimism

Megadog
Brixton Academy

THE handbills read "Blow your brains out for '94!" And nearly 5,000 assorted hippies and ravers were doing precisely that. A man in Lurex waved a plastic lobster in time to the music, one woman had brought a *Magic Roundabout* doll for company, and hundreds queued patiently to have their faces decorated with fluorescent squiggles. Four airsute men — the Ballet Hooligans, who wear only tutus with braces and Doc Marten boots — pirouetted through the crowd, chanting 'Swan Lake! Swan Lake!". No one batted an eyelid.

Megadog is a multi-media club which specialises in being richly strange. This was the first night of one of London's largest New Year's Eve parties and all its £22.50 tickets had sold out weeks before. Its blend of fast acid house, electronic and world music appealed to the generations who hear in the primal, shamanic beat a confirmation of one-ness and optimism.

Bob and Michael Dog, parents to this happening, were running a tight ship. Eight bands moved on and off the stage with precision timing. In the foyer and balcony dance areas, DJs were listed — a courteous touch for the revellers with particular favourites. No trouble had been spared in the decor stakes: parachute silks billowed from the yawning dome of the main arena, creating multiple layers for the lasers, lights and projections to play upon.

As lobster, doll and several thousand pairs of feet jumped about, the distinctions between performers and audience blurred. With their shaven-headed front woman, Eat Static were more visible than (especially) Banco De Gaia, obscured by their computers, or even Orbital, whose blinding back-lights mimic the intense pulse of their captivating soundscapes.

Ozric Tentacles (Dorset's answer to the Grateful Dead) were obscured by hair and one feared that guitar strings and tresses might entangle with alarming results. Gigantic fireworks signalled the Ozric's exit only minutes before midnight struck. Michael was on stage, wolf-howling over a bass beat and shouting "Count it down! It's coming!" Ravers threw themselves into a peaceful scrimmage of hugs while a silhouetted lobster waved above their heads.

LOUISE GRAY

LONDON

ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET: Ben Stevenson choreographs Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* in this highly acclaimed production. Young and old alike, along with Clara and her nutcracker Prince, will be swept along on a journey through *the Land of Snow, presided over by the* Snow Queen, and into the fairytale land of sweets. The charming designs are by Desmond Heeley. Note some casting changes this week, as the Bolshoi guest artist Yuri Klevtsov has pulled out of ENB's South Bank season and returned to Moscow.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800). Today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Season continues until January 22.

ROYAL BALLET: Yet another production of *The Nutcracker*, this time Peter Wright's nostalgic and faithful version he made for Covent Garden ten years ago. The designs by Julia Trevelyan Oman are rich and detailed, the transformation scene with its spectacular growing Christmas tree is sheer theatre magic.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Bow Street, London WC2 (071-240 1066), today, 2pm, 7pm.

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA: Aficionados of Glen Miller will enjoy this special New Year tribute to the 50th anniversary year of his death and the D-Day landings. Songs to be performed in "The Legend Lives On" include "Tuxedo Junction", "Little Brown Jug" and "Chatanooga Choo Choo". Special guests are Tony Mansell, Donna Canale, the Moonlight Serenaders and the Uptown Hall Gang. During the second half, the orchestra will play in the uniforms of the US Army Air Force band.
Barbican Hall, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891) Tonight, 7.30pm.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Lucy Gribble

ELSEWHERE

SWANSEA: Bruce Roberts from *Home and Away* is the Prince who is lucky enough to wake up Suzanne Dando's ***Sleeping Beauty** with a kiss*. Comedy is provided by Paul Shane of *Hi-de-Hi* fame, who plays the Dame, and green-haired Grotbags, who plays herself.
Grand Theatre, Singleton Street, Swansea (0792-475715) today, 2.15pm, 7.15pm

NEWCASTLE: This year's pantomime is the well-loved story of **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**. The stars of the show are Malandra Burrows from *Emmerdale Farm*, who plays the girl with the golden tresses, and Bobby Davro, who keeps everyone amused with his part as Silly Billy.
Theatre Royal, 100 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, (091-232 2061). *Today, 3pm and 7pm. Until Jan 16.*

HATFIELD: Kate Weston of breakfast television fame is the young man who goes to London expecting to find the streets paved with gold in this performance of **Dick Whittington**. Bruno Brookes plays the Idle Jack and Richard Whitmore is *Alderman Fitzwarren. The emphasis is on fun in* this lively production.
The Forum, Lemsford Road, Hatfield (0707 271217). Today, 2.30 and 7.30pm. Runs until Jan 8.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The London Group (071-638 4141) ... **British Museum:** *Deities and Devotions*: Hindu art; Demon of Painting, Kawanabe Kyosai (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall:** Bruce Chatwin's Photographs (071-928 3002) ... **National Portrait Gallery:** The Portrait Now; Thomas Eakins (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery:** Ken Kiff (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts:** Drawings from the J. Paul Getty Museum (071-439 7438) ... **Serpentine:** Richard Wentworth (071-402 6075) ... **Tate:** Writing on the Wall, women artists; Ben Nicholson; Turner's Vignettes (071-887 8008) ... **Victoria & Albert:** Gates of Mystery: Russian icons; 150 Years of the Christmas Card (071-938 8500).

THEATRE GUIDE

● Please note that performances and opening times may vary during the New Year period so do check with theatres beforehand.

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **ASPECTS OF LOVE:** Andrew Lloyd Webber now has six musicals running concurrently as this one returns for a short revival. Not one of the best.
Prince of Wales, Coventry St, WC2 (071-839 5972) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. Until Jan 15

□ **THE BFG:** Roald Dahl's Big Friendly Giant makes his festive call.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon 7pm; Tue-Fri, 2pm and 7pm; Sat 11am, 2.30pm, 7pm.

■ **CAROUSEL:** Rodgers and Hammerstein with the familiar mixture of the perceptive and the maudlin.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **JANE EYRE:** Alexandra Mathie and *Tim Pigott-Smith in the well-known* romantic melodrama. Fay Weldon adapts, Helena Kaut-Howson directs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat 3pm.

□ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's marvellously re-imagined version of Priestley's social thriller.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm

□ **THE IRON MAN:** Pete Townshend's disappointing rock opera based on Ted Hughes's modern fairytale and nowhere near as thrilling.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363) Mon-Sat, at various times (1.30pm, 2.30pm, 7pm).

■ **MADNESS OF GEORGE III:** Nigel Hawthorne's award-winning performance of blasted, resilient monarchy.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Tonight, 7.30pm.

■ **ME AND MAMIE O'ROURKE:** French and Saunders in lightweight US play about lesbian fantasies.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800) Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 6pm and 8.45pm.

◩ **MEDEA:** Diana Rigg returns to the West End in Euripides's tragedy. Directed by Jonathan Kent.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm; mats, Sat 5.30pm

MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN: Anthony Clark directs Hanif Kureishi's touring production of Brecht, with Ellie Haddington as the persistent capitalist.
National (Cottesloe) South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.30pm.

□ ***OLEANNA:** Power, politics and punishment at an American university.* Great performances by David Suchet and Lia Williams in Harold Pinter's production of David Mamet's play.
Duke of York's, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

□ **PIAF:** Elaine Paige in powerful voice as the Parisian sparrow. The play itself is rather less than marvellous.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed (Lorraine Brunning) and Sat 3pm

□ **RELATIVE VALUES:** Susan Hampshire, Sara Crowe and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Coward's snobbish but clever comedy. Tim Luscombe directs.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◩ **SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** Donald Sinden, Miriam Margolyes and David Essex in Peter Hall's revival of the evergreen Goldsmith comedy.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm

□ **TRAVESTIES:** Tom Stoppard's dazzling word-spinner revived with Antony Sher as the aged consul remembering Lenin, Joyce and Dada in 1917 Zurich. Adrian Noble directs.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891) Tonight, 7.15pm.

■ **WALLENSTEIN:** Tim Albery's directing debut for the RSC in Schiller's mighty drama about power's capacity to corrupt. Ken Bones plays the great general.
Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm.

■ **WIND IN THE WILLOWS:** Back for *the really and truly last time (running until* March). Desmond Barrit as Mr Toad.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.15pm.

LONG RUNNERS

■ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ■ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) ... ■ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-580 8845) ... □ **Hot Stuff:** Cambridge (071-494 5040) ... ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi Theatre (071-344 0055) ... □ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... ◩ **The Woman In Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).
Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ANOTHER STAKEOUT (PG): Return *of Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez's* bantering cops: comedy action for the easily pleased. Director, John Badham.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CENTURY (15): Stephen Poliakoff's muddled dissection of science and morality. With Clive Owen, Charles Dance, Miranda Richardson.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **Odeons: Haymarket** (0426 915353) **Kensington** (0426 914666) **Phoenix East Finchley** (081-883 2233)

MAC (18): Refreshing, old-fashioned salute to the common man from actor, co-writer and director John Turturro.
Metro (071-437 0757) **MGMs: Panton Street** (071-930 0631) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

CURRENT

***ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES** (PG):* Overblown sequel, with good stretches. With Raul Julia, Anjelica Huston; director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

ALADDIN (U): Disney's brash Arabian cartoon does not match expectations, although Robin Williams's Genie is fun. Directors, John Musker, Ron Clements.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

AMERICAN HEART (15): Father and son hit the Seattle streets. Well-meaning social drama from director Martin Bell; with Jeff Bridges and Edward Furlong.
Odeon Mezzanine (0426 915683)

DESPERATE REMEDIES (15): Artless, exhausting high camp from New Zealand. Stewart Main and Peter Wells direct.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (071-586 3057) **Warner** (071-439 0791)

THE FUGITIVE (12): 1960s television series roars back to life with Harrison Ford as the fugitive trying to clear his name. Director, Andrew Davis.
MGMs: Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

JURASSIC PARK (PG): Michael Crichton's bestseller becomes a clumsy vehicle for rampaging dinos and superior special effects. Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Richard Attenborough. Director, Steven Spielberg.
Empire (071-437 1234/497 9999) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999)

KING OF THE HILL (12): Touching memoir of a Depression childhood, directed by Steven Soderbergh. With Jesse Bradford, Jeroen Krabbé.
Gate (071-727 4043)

LATE SPRING: Moving portrait of a father and his dutiful daughter, from the Japanese master Yasujiro Ozu.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

A PERFECT WORLD (15): Kevin Costner's criminal on the run, Clint Eastwood in pursuit. Thoughtful if overstretched drama; Eastwood directs.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY (U): Merchant Ivory's immaculate if chilly account of Kazuo Ishiguro's novel with Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson.
Curzons: *Mayfair* (071-465 8865) **West End** (071-439 4805) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426-914 666) Swiss Cottage (071-586 3057)

ROBIN HOOD: MEN IN TIGHTS (PG): Unfunny, outdated Sherwood Forest spoof from Mel Brooks.
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Postcards from the edgy

Kate Bassett takes a walk on the wild side with the best — and, in one case, worst — of current avant-garde theatre in New York

The People Show — those ancient avant-gardists of British theatre — are still standing. Some of the individual practitioners who first fanned the flames of experimental theatre in this *country are also at work today*, supported by the ICA and drama departments at open-minded universities. However, hardly any of the original companies, such as Impact, have survived.

The American situation is, perhaps, not so different. After all, Broadway and Hollywood make the mainstream a virtually all-engulfing flood. Yet *some highly eccentric companies have* weathered the years formidably well.

The Wooster Group, founded in 1975, is still going strong, having established its house style some time back. Artistic director Elizabeth LeCompte recycles props in different *productions*. The Wooster Group's current project, *Fish Story II*, specifically refers back to *Brace Up!*, the company's extraordinary version of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* (seen at London's Riverside Studios last year). *Fish Story II* is, in fact, the tailpiece — if you'll pardon the pun — to the latter.

The environment is familiar: fluorescent lighting; a cable-strewn floor; *standing microphones and television* screens. Nonetheless, *Fish Story II* has also pushed forward. The cast is now tackling *The Three Sisters'* last act of farewells and lovers' partings. The production is, thereby, both nostalgically retrospective and moving on, like Chekhov's own characters.

Compared with *Brace Up!*, *Fish Story II* is, so far (it is very much a work in progress), more heavily weighted towards dance, song and humour. It is whimsically irrational, sharply illuminating and Woosterishly eclectic. A Teddy Boy element has wheedled its way in: Chekhov's military men, now bequiffed, strum their shooting sticks like wannabe rock 'n' rollers. The Japanese element has also blossomed. *Fish Story II* intercuts the Russian play (some of which is recorded on deliberately faded sepia footage) with commentary from a documentary on a *Japanese travelling Geinin troupe.*

Peyton Smith (Masha) gives a beautifully controlled performance, partly a coy oriental lady, partly a geisha girl who appears to have gone to seed overnight. Wobbling on her stilettos, she struggles to be poised yet betrays outbreaks of palsy. Kate Valk, reeling around like a concussed circus clown and crashing down on the reverberating floor, embodies the emotional collapse that Masha — uncoupling from Vershinin yet caringly hooked — *is straining to keep inside.*

The directorial vision is one of Masha's breakdown extending into the play's whole world. Everybody is hobbled: pigeon-toed as if they may yet mature, yet unable to stand tall and walk free, trussed from waist to heel by crippling cords that make them walk like Noh actors and old folks. The slightly Beckettian decrepitude of *Brace Up!* has now taken a firm hold. However, the Wooster Group's new baby is — rough edges and all — vitally creative and invigorating.

Meanwhile Spalding Gray, a founder member of the Wooster Group who went solo well before *Swimming to Cambodia*, is being craftily unanimated uptown. He is packing out the house at the Lincoln Centre, just sitting behind a desk talking about himself. His latest monologue, *Gray's Anatomy*, charts his absurd adventures with alternative medicine, a course he embarked on when his eyesight began to fail due to a macula pucker.



Spalding Gray, once of the Wooster Group, is packing them in with his one-man sit-down stand-up routine

Gray's art form operates on a level of popular entertainment. There is an element of sit-down stand-up to it, but he blends that with fantastical storytelling and the concessions of a *professional journal-keeper*. Even as he zooms in on the seemingly trivial minutiae of his encounters with psychic surgeons and gurus at Indian sweat lodges, he pans across epic scenes (marriage and death, quests and circularity, growing up and growing old) and there is a brilliantly subtle overarching structure (echoes of tiny words and gestures).

Gray's intensity is born from his concoction of comedy from his fears and despair, as well as from his quietly *neurotic drive*. He is clearly ruminating about how he is getting on, yet he is very much inventively alive and has all his wits about him.

Unfortunately, the continued existence of the once-aesthetically and politically ground-breaking Living Theatre (begun in 1947 by the late Julian Beck and Judith Malina) seems little more than perverse. *Anarchia*, the company's current production at the Theatre for the New City, is a sorry mess. The acting is shoddy: Malina stumbles around in the "star" role (so much for equality); the philosophising is banal; the half-baked games with fiction and reality would have Pirandello *pirouetting* in his grave, and there is only a limp motion towards audience participation. Urgent notes, tossed into the auditorium inside polystyrene rocks, inform the spectators they could cause the demise of those on stage if they do not get up and go to the rescue. I remained grimly glued to my seat.

Some highly eccentric companies have weathered the years formidably well

Still, just round the block at St Mark's, the acclaimed writer-director-designer Richard Foreman (who established his Ontological-Hysteric Theatre in 1968) is rehearsing his new work, *My Head Was A Sledgehammer*. According to Foreman, the piece is concerned with his ageing. At one point, the "professor" enters in the *platform soles of a Greek tragic actor* and announces that that is what it feels like when you get old.

Foreman believes he has stylistically mellowed over time, becoming less aggressively anti-naturalistic and more meditative, emotional and humanistic. Still, his new production promises to be a vibrant alternative to standard dramatic fare. He still shines lights in the audience's eyes; splices the air with strings; pieces his texts together from fragmented notes, and only allots speeches once his actors are assembled. Foreman is never easy, but his work is as resonant as it is elusive. Surely it is time Britain imported him for a production or two.

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هكذا من الأصل

Sometimes it's hard to be a man

The chronicler of small-town America has turned his attention to the sex war. **Rachel Cusk** finds mixed results

The American ague of social self-consciousness, whose symptoms appear to be the compulsive formation of vaguely warring social groups accompanied by the need continually to produce Oprah Winfrey-style commentaries on the vicissitudes of the enemy camps at the expense of most other aspects of human life, is at its most deadly when present in any kind of literary or humorous work. Garrison Keillor, a man whose very name suggests strong resistance and who showed himself capable of both empathy and imagination in *Lake Wobegon Days*, appears to be in danger of succumbing to contagion with his latest contribution to the already overblown genre of gender, *The Book of Guys*.

"Guys are in trouble," he says in his introduction, a transcript of a speech given this year to the National Federation of Associations convention. "Years ago, *manhood* was an opportunity for achievement, and now it is a problem to be overcome." Keillor, it seems is in more trouble than most. "Women watch us and monitor our conversation for signs of bad *attitude*," he says. "A monogamous man is like a bear riding a bicycle ... we learn to ride that bicycle for the sake of women, and we ride it darned well, considering, and we live a pleasant, if sometimes cloying, life."

One can't help but feel that the women in Keillor's life would be better off leaving his attitude to the services of a mine-sweeper and finding a more fulfilling way of *spending their time, for it seems that* nothing short of adulation will do. "Why is it so important to you to be as wonderful as you are?" chirps one female, unashamedly quoted by Keillor in the griping finale of his speech. "Why can't you just be yourself?" Based on what we have just read, the reasons would seem both clear and persuasive. "I am trying to do that, my darling," says Keillor, however. "I am going to be myself right now." One could be forgiven a moment or two of apprehension before embarking on the 300-odd pages which follow.

The Book of Guys is a collection of parabolic stories gathered together, presumably, as a celebration of guy-ness. As the basis for a collection, guy-ness is somewhat vague. Returning to the introduction, one begins to discern the presence of a publicity ploy. "Guys know that we should free ourselves from women ... and stop trying to be so wonderful to them ... Stop feeling guilty, as if we could make it up to them. (AUDIENCE REACTION)".

This, then, is evidently Keillor's contribution to male liberation, one of many backlashes currently beating American intellectual life to a pulp. As an antidote to humour such an agenda is difficult to surpass, and it also means that Keillor can include defiant descriptions of "her caramel skin set off by two red bands of bikini, her perfect breasts, her long, tan legs," etc, etc ...

THE BOOK OF GUYS
By Garrison Keillor
Faber, £14.99

without submitting them to any kind of literary judgment. Shock tactics are no substitute for genius ("I was concentrating on her breasts, which were prominently displayed, particularly the left one, which was nearer to me (AUDIENCE REACTION)" and Keillor does his talents no favours by setting *them against this* peculiar background. This is a shame, because many of the stories are very funny and are tarnished rather than enhanced by any political preconceptions of guy-ness.

Most of the guys portrayed here are in fact sad and comic social types around whom fables of surreal proportions are wrought. In *Earl Grey*, Earl is the middle child of a wealthy American family. "In America the middle child is the invisible one. The firstborn child is usually dutiful, earnest ... and the younger kids are disturbed, with tiny haunted eyes, they grind their teeth, they wet the beds, they strangle cats." Earl is neglected ("Sometimes they called him 'Vern' by mistake and when he corrected them, they said, 'Oh well. Whatever.'") and is eventually left in a restaurant from which his parents never remember to retrieve him. There he is brought up by a tea-drinking waitress and goes on to make his fortune from tea, which to him represents "civilisation and the spirit of caring".

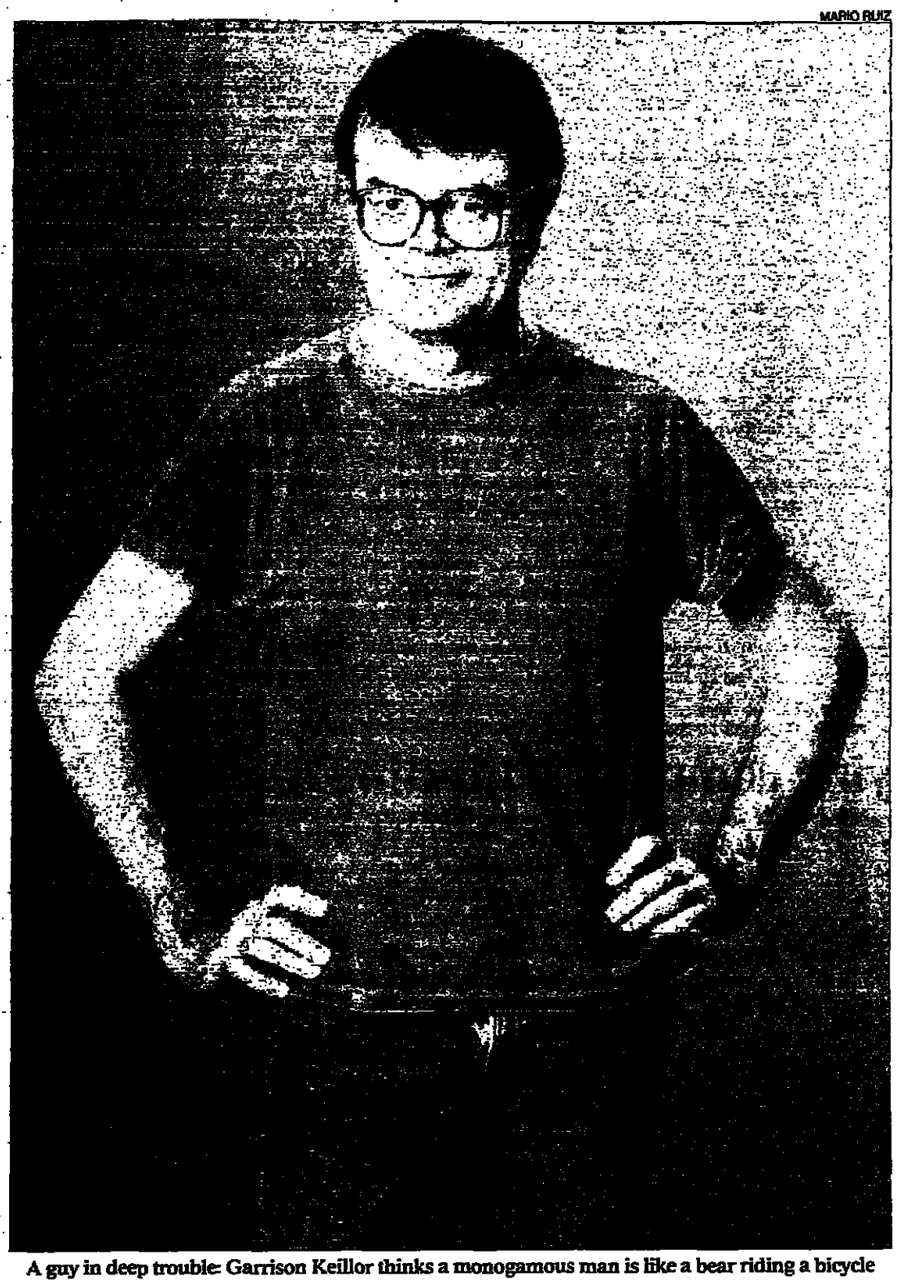
In *Winthrop Thorpe Tortuga*, Winthrop manages to be a perfect husband and father by venting his anger in random acts of "bigotry and meanness". After counselling his wife on the intricacies of her affair with her chiropractor and persisting in negotiations with his delinquent teenaged son ("It was like talking to a terrorist"), Winthrop "slipped a note into the pastor's Ford Bronco, 'We comin' for *you*, mothuh,' and walked home, feeling top of the world."

In *The Chuck Show of Television*, a morally upright talk-show host is forced by his producer to abandon his usual calibre of guest ("Parents from District 18 discuss bus transportation") in favour of something that can compete with the other networks. "Chuck got beat out even by Miklo Pstachek's talk show, which is in Latvian." Chuck starts featuring copulating rabbits and hypnotised chickens "and the overnight ratings showed Chuck with the highest numbers ever recorded by a daytime cable talk host".

In *George Bush*, America is invaded by barbarian hordes so George "flew up to Kennebunkport for a week of *tennis and buzzing* around in *his* boat". Eventually America accepts the barbarians as an ethnic group. "The country was curious about Huns and Hun lifestyle. *Vanity Fair* did a Hun cover, *showing Bruce Willis eating* half-cooked collie haunches with a naked virgin tied to a chair next to him."

It is odd that a writer as cynical and perspicacious as Keillor can be *should* engage in the type of meaningless pop-sociological repartee that he parodies so effectively. *The Book of Guys* suffers from its own packaging ("The American male is in trouble, under siege" declares the dustjacket), and its contents are often more subtle and complex than its presentation would imply. The place for a humorist, one feels, is observing bandwagons rather than jumping on to them.

MARIO RUIZ



A guy in deep trouble: Garrison Keillor thinks a monogamous man is like a bear riding a bicycle

More damned, thick, square books

A new edition of Gibbon's **Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire** is always a literary event. For this purpose the industrious publisher of Everyman's Library, David Campbell — who has sold more than two million copies since 1991, when he relaunched Everyman in hardback — wisely engaged Hugh Trevor-Roper: the greatest living authority on the greatest English historian of Rome. Trevor-Roper has written a 44-page introduction to the first three volumes of this elegant boxed set, a revised version of the original Everyman edition of 1910 by Oliphant Smeaton, based on J.B. Bury's definitive text.



In these volumes Gibbon moves from the age of the Antonines to the extinction of the western empire at the end of the 5th century AD. They *contain many of his most* celebrated passages, including the scathing account of early Christianity in the notorious 15th and 16th chapters, which Gibbon defended against charges of impiety and (to him more seriously) of distortion in his *Vindication*.

Trevor-Roper's sympathetic interpretation of Gibbon, delivered in lectures to generations of Oxford undergraduates, emerges clearly from his characteristically pointed and euphonious essay. Readers may expect another introduction, doubtless no less worthy of its subject, to accompany the last three volumes, devoted to the history of the eastern empire down to the Turkish conquest of Constantinople; they should appear later this year. At £25 for each set, nobody can complain about the price. But I regret the omission of Gibbon's own advertisement of 1783 and preface of 1788, which contain valuable information; and I trust that this excision will be made good in the last three volumes.

Colonel W.F.P. Napier wrote a history on the same gigantic scale as the *Decline and Fall*; but unlike Captain Gibbon, who fortunately never saw active service, Napier had served throughout one of the longest campaigns of all time, and he devoted 20 years to writing its history.

His **History of the War in the Peninsula** has been republished over the past 18 months by Constable in six volumes at £19.95 each. At nearly £120 the set, this is not a cheap edition: but secondhand copies are rare and the volumes average nearly 700 pages. This is not a work that will appeal to everybody: it is military history for the connoisseur, prodigious in logistical detail and austere in description.

Although he wrote virtually contemporary history, however, Napier was not inhibited from the display of his own political principles and prejudices. Here is a sample from Volume VI: "Deep unmitigated hatred of democracy was indeed the moving spring of the English Tories' policy. Napoleon was warred against not, as they pretended, because he was a tyrant and usurper, for he was neither; not because his invasion of Spain was unjust, but because he was the powerful and successful enemy of aristocratic privileges." There is no trace of Francophobia in Napier, despite the spinal injury inflicted by a French musket ball.

Lytton Strachey might have disdained the respectability implied by the inclusion of his essays on **Eminent Victorians** and his biographical study of **Queen Victoria** in a series of literary classics; but this has not deterred Chatto & Windus from using him to help the Chatto Pocket Library get off the ground. Strachey's Victorians look fine in the art deco covers of these attractive volumes, although one would need capacious pockets to accommodate them. At £9.99 they are good value, but it is a pity that Chatto did not supply an introduction, biographical sketch or bibliography.

Price is certainly not a reason for investing in the latest volumes of the Pickering Women's Classics: Mary Shelley's **Frankenstein**, edited by Marilyn Butler, and Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's **Turkish Embassy Letters**, introduced by Anita Desai. Both volumes cost £24.95, which puts them out of reach of most non-specialists. But they are both valuable publications. Lady Mary's delightful epistolary work, based on her correspondence and journals written at the courts of the Habsburgs and Ottomans, is presented in its original form, apart from spelling and punctuation. As for Mary Shelley: Professor Butler argues that the first (1818) edition of *Frankenstein* is a "more important and serious book" than the third (1831), on which most modern editions have been based. So perhaps lovers of the gothic novel will compare this version with the very different tale now inseparable in most minds from Boris Karloff.

Eight hundred years before Lady Mary set out for the Sublime Porte, another ambassador wrote an equally riveting account of his journey to the capital of what was then the Byzantine empire. Liudprand of Cremona's **The Embassy to Constantinople and other writings** has now been published in an excellent Everyman paperback edition by John Julius Norwich, priced at only £5.99. This long-suffering bishop, who helped the Saxon monarch Otto to become emperor, went to Constantinople on two missions; his narrative of the second, and less successful, of these is *justly entitled to the status of a* classic. It reads as if written in a barely suppressed fury; and it proves that the best way to disguise a failure of diplomacy is usually to resort to liberal doses of xenophobia.

DANIEL JOHNSON

PAPERBACKS

THE NIGHT
By Terence Stamp
Phoenix, £5.99

THE NIGHT in question is *Midsummer Eve* which, with all its libidinous overtones, is a good excuse for what the blurb coyly calls a "special dinner party" among the rich, new age folk of Holland Park — people with names like Imo and Zeno, Fleur and Flick, who are into aromatherapy and reflexology and the occult. Stamp has a good time sending up this milieu, but his characters are so shallow and heartless and the plot so minimal that interest in their priapic doings soon flags.

SNAKES AND LADDERS
By Penelope Farmer
Abacus, £6.99

FARMER'S much praised novel is about the politics of healing. Anna Kern joins her neurologist husband on a third-world research project for a Swiss pharmaceutical company. The disease, dark and disturbing, is epilepsy; in the race for prestige the lives of afflicted peasants can be the least considered factor. A powerful and important theme, particularly poignant for Anna, who dares not disclose her own involvement with the illness. A marriage in crisis and the eternal dialogue between art and and science are interwoven in a narrative rich but not unflawed: a crucial character too much offstage and the truly sinister possibilities of the central issue sidestepped.

LOOKING BACK
By Shusha Guppy
Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, £5.99

TEN *grandes dames*, among them Kathleen Raine, Diana Mosley and Lesley Blanch, get the *Hello!* treatment in this compilation of interviews by Shusha Guppy. Despite Guppy's line in awestruck questioning ("Did you meet any American writers when you were in America?", or "As a sexy woman, you must have had a lot of offers on your travels?") this clutch of literary ladies rises to the challenge with aplomb. All of them are quoted verbatim which makes for some wonderful throw-away remarks such as Lady Diana Cooper's cruelly casual reference to Vita Sackville-West's moustache. It is compelling, if infuriating, reading and there is a fine introduction by Anita Brookner.

● *Contributors: Hazel Leslie, Sue Gee, Lucy Lethbridge*

THIS WEEK'S OFFERS

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

LONDON
Arts Theatre
Jan 4-29, 8pm (also 4pm Fridays and Saturdays)
THE Amorous Life and Times of Giacomo Casanova, Transformation was the surprise hit of the 1993 Edinburgh Fringe. When Gus stumbles on stage the heart sinks to see a typical transvestite spot, complete with mock-sexy wig and handbag. But by the end of this hysterical comedy you'll be completely won over. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £18) Tue-Thur, £11.50 Fri & Sat. Tel 071 836 2132
GLASGOW
Pavilion Theatre
Mr McScrooge
Jan 2, 9, 12-15, 18, 20, 22, 27, 7.30pm (also Jan 9 at 2pm)
STARRING Dave Anderson, Andy Cameron and Eileen McCallum, the meanest panto ever to hit Glasgow is perfect for Christmas entertainment. Save £2 on tickets (normally £8.25 for adults and £5.25 for children and pensioners). Tel 041 332 1846
YORK
Theatre Royal
Jack and the Beanstalk
Jan 14, 21, 4.30pm
SAVE £3 on tickets booked by FEB, and get a free raffle number programme signed by Berwick Kaler, the star making his 15th annual panto appearance in York. Tel 0904 623568
MOLD
Theatr Clwyd
Abigail's Party
Feb 1-2, 8-9, 7.45pm

Of megaliths and magic



Celtic knotwork, from Ronan Coghlan's *Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Arthurian Legends*, (Element, £18.99)

Norman Hammond

THE MAKING OF STONEHENGE
By Rodney Castleden
Routledge, £25

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF THE CELTS
By Simon James
Thames & Hudson, £16.95

THE CELTS
Edited by V.Kruta et al
Thames & Hudson, £45.00

As the archaeologist Jacquetta Hawkes once memorably remarked, every age gets the Stonehenge that it deserves: from Geoffrey of Monmouth's fanciful identification of it in 1135 as a Dark Age war memorial spirited from Ireland by Merlin, to Inigo Jones's conclusion that it was a Roman temple and Gerald Hawkins's thesis that it had been built as a prehistoric computer to track movements of the sun and moon.

In the high-tech Sixties the idea of neolithic Einsteins with an intellectual culture far in advance of their simple agricultural economy was an appealing one. The rigorous surveys by the Scottish engineer, Professor Alexander Thom, seemed to bear it out with deduced units of measurement like the "megalithic yard," and ground plans using classical geometry centuries before Pythagoras or Euclid.

The megalithic yard has now been demoted to the pace-length of an average man, the exact lunar and solar alignments seen as just general orientations towards heavenly bodies, and the purpose of the structure once again relegated to the misty realm of the ritual. But the great sarsen circles and trilithons still stand in battered dignity amid the barbed wire and the traffic.

Rodney Castleden has read all the reports, and summarises what the experts have said in layman's language, with numerous diagrams of his own devising. As an *aficionado*, not constrained by the ambiguity or absence of evidence that hampers the professional archaeologist, he then advances into speculative territory, proposing a design based on a half-ruined timber round-house immortalised in stone, "the nostalgic and sentimental image of the communal ancestoral home not quite complete, not yet quite fallen apart through decay."

He also suggests that the famous bluestones, long recognised as having an ultimate geological origin in south Wales, were a diplomatic gift from the people of Dyfed which could not be refused, and that the monument was a "magic circle" for conjuring spirits. Jung, the *Books of the Sorcerers* and *Cold Comfort Farm* are all brought in to support a case more fervid than factual.

Castleden is sensible about the Druids, though, and the modern origin of the white-robed enthusiasts (who only begin to cavort at Stonehenge in 1905, although an earlier *Punch* cartoon shows Father Time and a Druid playing cricket there with a trilithon for a wicket) who took their name. As far as we know the real Druids, the aristocratic priesthood of Britain's Celtic Iron Age peoples, had nothing to do with Stonehenge which had by then been abandoned for centuries.

If you are not too sure about the Celts and where they came from, Simon James's *Exploring the World of the Celts* is for you. Neat double-page *spreads, organised into ten* main sections and each flanked by apposite quotations from Roman authors and embellished with photographs and reconstruction drawings, tackle all the major points. Even the Hoxne hoard, declared treasure trove only last September, gets a mention. Originating perhaps in the Urnfield cultures of Hungary four thousand years ago, the Celts spread rapidly across central and western Europe to Iberia and Ireland (although some would have them there even earlier, recipients rather than bearers of La Tène art, with its marvellous geometric *abstractions) and twining im*ages of beasts).

In 390 BC they had Rome at their mercy, and could have changed the course of world history had they not been bought off. A *later migration* led some of them to Greece to sack the shrine of Apollo at Delphi while another group, over 20,000 strong, settled in central Anatolia. The Gauls became the Galatians later to be epistle-whipped by St Paul into Christianity.

The Britons, at the other end of the Celtic world, were overcome by Rome, and after the fall of the empire were pressed westwards by the Anglo-Saxons. Their language and culture survived in *Brittany*, west Britain and Ireland, however, and resurfaced in the Christian renaissance that we see in the Books of Kells.

Thames & Hudson have sensibly partnered James's book with a reissue of *The Celts*, the monumental accompaniment to the great 1991 Venice exhibition on "The *Origins of Europe*". Just about every specialist on the period has contributed to its 700 pages and 1,100 illustrations.



Sir Ron to the rescue?

This week Sir Ron Dearing produces the report that could end the disputes that have dogged the national curriculum and its tests.

For a full digest of his proposals read The TES

OUT JANUARY 7

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Agreed drug figures conclusive

Regina v Tredwen
Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Morland and Mr Justice Blofeld
[Judgment December 3]

Figures accepted or agreed to be conclusive under section 3 of the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 for the purposes of confiscation proceedings were conclusive for all stages of such proceedings including appeals to the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in refusing an application by Donald Roy Tredwen for leave to appeal against a confiscation order for £186,379, payable within 18 months with three years imprisonment in default, made at Winchester Crown Court (Mr Justice Schiemann) in October 1990 on his plea of guilty to counts of conspiracy to import cocaine and cannabis for which he was sentenced to a total term of imprisonment of 15 years.

Section 3 of the 1986 Act provides: "(1) Where (a) there is tendered to the crown court by the prosecutor a statement as to any matters relevant to the determination whether the defendant has benefited from drug trafficking or to the assessment of the value of his proceeds of drug trafficking, and (b) the defendant accepts to any extent any allegation in the statement, the court may, for the purposes of that determination and assessment, treat his acceptance as conclusive of the matters to which it relates.

"(4) Where (a) there is tendered to the crown court by the defendant a statement as to any matters relevant to determining the amount that might be realised at the time the confiscation order is made, and (b) the prosecutor accepts to any extent any allegation in the statement, the court may, for the purposes of that determination, treat the acceptance by the prosecutor as conclusive of the matters to which it relates."

Mr Philip Singer, who did not appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the applicant; Mr John Spokes, QC and Mr Paul Garlick for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, giving the judgment of the court, said that before the hearing to determine the applicant's proceeds of drug trafficking the prosecution tendered a statement made by an officer of the Customs and Excise, the applicant's solicitors responded and there was a supplemental statement from the prosecution.

At the hearing on October 3, 1990 Mr Garlick informed the judge that the agreed assets figure had been reduced to £189,979 but no reference was made to any reduction of figures in the proceeds of drug trafficking part of the table. Counsel then appearing for the applicant indicated his agreement by saying he did not wish to say anything. Accordingly, the judge made a confiscation order in the sum of £189,979.

Before the Court of Appeal, Mr Singer submitted that where the acceptance of the contents of statements was, under section 3, conclusive in the crown court as provided by that section, it was not conclusive on an appeal to the Court of Appeal. Thus Court of Appeal had the power to, and should, re-consider whether the acceptance or admission of figures relating either to the proceeds of drug trafficking, or the amount which might be realised, was justified and proper, and allow such figures to be challenged.

Mr Singer pointed to injustices which might result if such a challenge were not possible. While the amount which might be realised might be capable of alteration under section 14, that section did not permit any alteration of the figure found to be the proceeds of drug trafficking, which would thus continue to be attributed to the defendant.

Their Lordships had no doubt that that submission was wrong. When Parliament said that figures accepted or agreed were to be conclusive for the purposes of the confiscation proceedings, it intended them to be conclusive for all stages of such proceedings including appeal to the Court of Appeal.

The wording of section 10 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, which dealt with admissions generally, was not persuasive to the contrary. Moreover, section 10(4) expressly provided for an admission to be withdrawn with the leave of the court.

If section 10 of the 1967 Act was of any assistance in construing section 3 of the 1986 Act, as to which their Lordships had considerable doubt, the inclusion of that power in section 10(4) and its absence in section 3 of the 1986 Act pointed to the conclusion that Parliament did not intend an acceptance or agreement reached under section 3 to be capable of withdrawal thereafter at any stage of the proceedings.

There was no unfairness in that. By taking proceedings under section 14, the convicted drug trafficker could protect himself from being ordered to pay a greater sum that the total of his realisable assets, and might have the sentence passed in default altered accordingly where necessary. The fact that the figure found to be the proceeds of any drug trafficking could not be challenged in such proceedings was of no great significance.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Financial provision claim fails

Harlow v National Westminster Bank plc and Others
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Henry and Sir John May
[Judgment December 13]

A father's failure to discharge his responsibilities towards his son during the child's minority could not be relied on by the son when an adult to found a claim for financial provision from his father's estate under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by three residuary legatees, the Blue Cross Animals Hospital, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and Age Concern, from the order of Mr Justice Wall in the Manchester District Registry in May 1993 that £40,000 be paid to Mr David Harlow out of the capital of the estate of his deceased father, Mr Derrick Jennings.

Section 1 of the 1975 Act provides for, *inter alia*, the son of a deceased person to bring a claim where "The disposition of the deceased's estate . . . is not such as to make reasonable financial provision for the applicant."

By section 3(1) of the Act to determine whether a disposition had made such provision, regard was to be had to: "(a) the financial resources and financial needs which the applicant has or is likely to have . . . (d) any obligations and responsibilities which the deceased had towards any applicant . . . (g) any other matter, including the conduct of the applicant or any other person, which in the circumstances of the case the court may consider relevant."

Mr Bruce Blair, QC and Mr Paul Teverson for the residuary legatees; Mr Ian Leeming, QC and Mr Nigel Bird for Mr Harlow.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that Mr Harlow, born in 1943, had been brought up by his mother and stepfather. His name had been changed from Jennings to Harlow by deed poll. After his parents had separated in 1945, the deceased had made no financial provision for him.

Mr Justice Wall had found as a fact that there had been no good reason for the deceased's failure to support his son or seek contact with him and that as a consequence the deceased had failed to honour his moral and financial obligations towards him.

The deceased died in 1990 leaving an estate worth some £300,000. By his will, after bequeathing pecuniary legacies, he left the balance to the residuary legatees in equal shares.

Mr Harlow, married with two daughters, had two companies that provided him and his family with a comfortable standard of living. They lived in Cheshire in a property valued in 1991 at about £400,000 and subject to a £50,000 mortgage. The judge described their standard of living as neither extravagant or unreasonable.

The provisions of the 1975 Act required the court to ask two questions: first, had reasonable financial provision been made for the applicant and, second, if not, what provision ought he to receive.

However, the case of *In re Coventry (dec'd)* ([1980] Ch 461) established that on an application by an adult son able to earn his own living there had to be some special circumstance, typically a moral obligation of the deceased towards him, before the first question could be determined in his favour.

The judge construed section 3(1)(d) so as to include the legal obligations and responsibilities which the deceased had had, but had failed to discharge, during Mr Harlow's minority, albeit that they were long spent. That was an impossible construction of paragraph (d).

As a general rule it could only refer to obligations and responsibilities which the deceased had had immediately before his death. An Act intended to facilitate the making of reasonable financial provision could not have been intended to revive defunct obligations and responsibilities as a basis for making it. Nor could they be prayed in aid under a general provision such as section 3(1)(g).

The only factor on which Mr Harlow could rely was the relationship between the deceased and himself as father and son. Although some might think that that ought to be a sufficient basis for making an order, the judge recognised that such had not been held to have been the intention of Parliament.

The judge was wrong to decide the first question in Mr Harlow's favour. His error being one of law or of principle the court was bound to interfere with his decision.

Such a finding was enough to dispose of the appeal in favour of the residuary legatees. However the second question had been fully argued: it being contended by the residuary legatees on the assumption that the judge was entitled to make an order, that Mr Harlow did not reasonably require any financial provision for his maintenance.

In *In re Dennis (dec'd)* ([1981] 2 All ER 140, 145) Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson had said that "maintenance" connoted payments which would directly or indirectly enable the applicant in the future to discharge the cost of his daily living at whatever standard of living was appropriate to him.

Here, the two companies provided Mr Harlow and his family with a comfortable standard of living. There was no evidence that he was likely to encounter financial difficulties in the future. It was impossible to see on what basis the judge could have concluded that Mr Harlow reasonably required further financial provision to maintain that standard of living.

To adopt the words of Mr Justice Browne-Wilkinson, no further financial provision was necessary to enable Mr Harlow to discharge the cost of his daily living at the standard appropriate to him. The judge's decision on the second question must have proceeded on an error of principle.

The case told a poignant story which would arouse sympathy for Mr Harlow in any but the hardest of hearts. But to allow the judge's order to stand would be to countenance a clear departure from the established principles which governed applications under the 1975 Act.

Lord Justice Henry and Sir John May gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Mundays, Esher; Tickle Hall Cross, St Helens.

Identifying company's directing mind

El Ajou v Dollar Land Holdings plc and Another
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Hoffmann
[Judgment December 2]

The director of a company who played no active part in its management but who individually exercised powers on its behalf was to be treated as the company's directing mind and will. The director's knowledge that assets traceable in equity as representing the proceeds of fraud had been received by the company enabled the victim of the fraud to claim to enforce a constructive trust against the company.

The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Abdul Ghani El Ajou, a victim of a massive share fraud, from the judgment of Mr Justice Millett ([1993] 3 All ER 717) dismissing his action against the defendant, Dollar Land Holdings plc.

Mr Michael Beloff QC, Mr Roger Ellis and Miss Sarah Moore for the plaintiff. Mr Romie Tager for the company.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the question was whether for the purposes of establishing a company's liability under the knowing receipt head of constructive trust, the knowledge of one of its directors could be treated as having been the knowledge of the company.

The company, acquired as a vehicle for property dealings by Americans in the United Kingdom, was under the direction of Mr William Stern. The director, Mr Sylvain Ferdman, was from 1985 to 1987 the company's chairman and one of three directors, described as nominee directors playing no part in the conduct of the company's business.

The plaintiff, the largest single victim of a massive share fraud carried out in Amsterdam between 1984 and 1985 by three Canadians, sought to recover £1.3 million. It was established that the company had received some of the proceeds of the fraud and invested them in a property development at Nine Elms, Battersea.

There was no doubt that the director had the knowledge that the company had received assets that represented the proceed of the fraud. The plaintiff contended that that knowlege was to be treated as having been the knowlege of the company. It was argued that the director was, in relation to the company's receipt, acting as its directing mind and will.

The directing mind and will doctrine attributed to a company the mind and will of the natural person or persons who managed and controlled its actions: see *Lennard's Carrying Co Ltd v Asiatic Petroleum Co Ltd* ([1915] AC 705). But management and control was not something to be considered generally or in the round. It was necessary to identify the natural person having management and control in relation to the act in point.

The judge accepted the company's contention that the director, being merely a "nominee director with non-executive responsibility" with "no authority to take business decisions" was not its directing mind and will in relation to its receipt of the assets.

The judge had erred. The responsibility for the management and control of the relevant transactions was not to be determined by identifying those who were responsible for deciding that the company would participate in the Nine Elms project and far less by identifying those who were responsible for business decisions generally.

It was the director who had made all the arrangements for the receipt and disbursement of the moneys. It was he who had signed the documents causing the company to become involved in the project and later to acquire the assets representing the moneys fraudulently misapplied.

The directing mind and will of the company in relation to the relevant transactions were the mind and will of the director and none other. That meant that the company had the requisite knowledge at that time.

LORD JUSTICE HOFFMANN, agreeing, said that the judge did not accept that the director was the directing mind and will of the company because he had exercised no independent judgment, acting entirely on direction of the American beneficial owners and of Mr Stern.

But neither the Americans nor Mr Stern held any position under the constitution of the company. It was the director who signed the relevant documents. He committed the company to the Nine Elms project as an autonomous act which the company had adopted by performing the agreement. That was sufficient to justify the director being treated as the company's directing mind and will.

The outcome was not unsatisfactory. If persons beneficially interested in a company preferred to allow that company for all legal purposes to be run by off-shore fiduciaries, they had to accept that it might incur liabilities by reason of the acts or knowlege of those fiduciaries.

Lord Justice Rose gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Bower Cotton & Bower; Kaufman Kramer Shebson, Camden.

Compensation orders to reflect offences charged

Regina v Crutchley
Regina v Tonks
Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Mr Justice Tucker and Mr Justice Blofeld
[Judgment December 14]

Compensation orders could only be made under section 35(1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973 to compensate for loss resulting from offences charged in an indictment, unless there was either an overall count covering the total loss of any individual company or body which had suffered loss as a result of the fraud, or offences taken into consideration in addition to those charged in the indictment.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated when allowing appeals by Deborah Crutchley and Trevor Reginald Tonks against compensation orders made on February 8, 1991 by Judge Kenneth Taylor at Stafford Crown Court on their pleas of guilty to, *inter alia*, numerous sample counts of obtaining property by deception.

The order in respect of Miss Crutchley was reduced from £7,892.84 to £684.50 and in respect of Mr Tonks from £30,387.83 to £3,409.63.

Appeals against a fine imposed on Miss Crutchley and against a confiscation order made against Mr Tonks were dismissed.

Mr David Martin-Sperry, who did not appear below, for the appellants; Mr Andrew Mitchell, who did not appear below, for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that it might well be desirable if a procedure were devised by which when, as in this case, defendants accepted guilt of a whole series of frauds, compensation orders could properly be made in favour of the total losses suffered by those who had been defrauded.

However, under the clear wording of section 35(1) the compensation orders in the present case had to be limited to the sums representing the amounts lost as a result of the offences charged in the indictment, instead of the total values of the amounts lost as a result of the whole of the appellants' frauds.

Solicitors: Glaisyers, Birmingham; Crown Prosecution Service, Central Confiscation Unit.

No ouster after rape

E v E (Non-molestation order)

Where it was proved before a court of competent jurisdiction that a husband had either raped or attempted to rape his wife, an order to oust the husband from the matrimonial home would normally follow. But where the wife had indicated in evidence in chief that she did not necessarily wish the husband to leave the home, it was within the judge's discretion to make an order barring the husband from the wife's bedroom together with a non-molestation order.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Peter Gibson) so held on December 7 when dismissing an appeal by the wife against a decision of Judge Quarren Evans made on her application for non-molestation and ouster orders on December 2 at Willesden County Court granting a non-molestation order with power of arrest against her husband and an order restraining him from entering her bedroom.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said the husband had twice tried to rape the wife in the week before the order was made. But she had told Judge Evans: "I don't necessarily want him to go. I want my safety and peace." In the circumstances, the Court of Appeal was not in a position to say that the judge had wrongly exercised his discretion.

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EDUCATION

Stuart Maclure hopes the Education Secretary stops interfering in 1994 and builds up teachers' quality and confidence

Will John Patten pull his socks up next term?

Ring out the old, ring in the new. What does 1994 promise for John Patten, the Education Secretary, and the troubled education scene? It is quite clear that the educators themselves in schools, colleges and universities would like a period of consolidation and a chance to make some sense of the changes already in the pipeline.

Once upon a time that is what they might have expected a Conservative government to offer, but not these days when ministers fidget if a month goes by without a brave new initiative. There is an insatiable desire to pull up every plant by the roots to make sure it is growing.

One half-baked reform follows another because having nationalised education, ministers believe that if they are not always popping up on television with bright new ideas, people will forget about them. What makes the fidgeting even worse is that strategy always has to take second place because such strategy as there is — market-oriented and competition-led — happens to hold out little appeal to electors when translated into educational terms.

> 'One half-baked reform follows another'

At the top of the 1994 agenda is the second Dearing Report on the national curriculum, expected on Wednesday, and the thoroughly bad Education Bill, which has just started in the House of Lords. But always in the background there are questions about quality. The recent inspectors' report which criticised aspects of primary education could have been produced at any time during the past 20 years, notwithstanding all the "reforms" introduced to jack up standards.

No one could accuse the Government of neglecting education but, after almost 15 years in office and a major reform every couple of months, the Prime Minister can still complain that 85 per cent of English pupils emerge with substandard achievements.

One of the central reform instruments is the national curriculum, which the latest devotees of "teacher-proofing" thought was the way to raise quality in spite of the teachers. Sir Ron Dearing has reached the cautious compromise you would expect. The compulsory curriculum is overloaded so he will cut down the compulsory element and give the teachers more discretion over the rest. He also has to clear up Key Stage 4, the programme for 14-16 year-olds. This is where the potential overcrowding is worst, and where ministers have already asked for more vocational options.

In his first report, Dearing did the easy bit — rediscovered the importance of teachers and simplified primary assessment — but the second time round it is different. He cannot please everyone. There is general support for the idea of a national curriculum, but agreement ends there. Clothe the idea with any detail and argument abounds: is the national curriculum to be a narrowly defined core of basic subjects, to be taught and tested rigorously?

Baroness Thatcher says this is what she wanted, but Kenneth Baker outfaced her and went ahead with a comprehensive curriculum in which the requirements for all subjects were to be spelled out and elaborately tested. (This Baker approach, with its attendant bureaucracy, is now, quaintly, credited to the teachers.)

The Thatcher view stressed simplicity and effectiveness: a curriculum which could be managed and tested. Those who took the Baker view — strongly supported in the Education Department and by the academic subject associations — argued that once you have a set of legally-prescribed curriculum requirements, anything which is not prescribed and tested will be neglected.

Dearing's compromise is not to retreat to the Thatcher position, but to insist that the national curriculum must be much richer than that part of it which is compulsorily prescribed and externally tested. Teachers will reckon they can live with this if it means that the overloading is reduced, but experience abroad (and here in times past) suggests that they will do so with varying degrees of success.

Some will certainly come to teach mainly to the tests. Prominent among those who have helped to overload the programmes have been the subject associations, led by men and women who must be ranked among the ablest of their profession. Like others competing in a sort of marketplace, they have been tempted to overplay their hands. It was a major error not to start by developing an over view — which, presumably is what Dearing has had to do — but the political necessity was to have something on the ground working as soon as possible.

But when Dearing finally reveals his compromises, the school science lobby and the historians and the geographers will be in the vanguard, complaining that their subjects have been short-changed. These are not new arguments and they will not go away.

What is taught between 14 and 16 will also raise a howl from those who believe that any differentiation before 16 is inconsistent with the comprehensive school ideal. But it has already become clear that the national curriculum really terminates at 14, whatever the law may say. From 14 onwards there will be more choice and self-selection. But this simply adds to the importance of getting vocational qualifications right: there is no reason to suppose that they are good enough in the form now envisaged.

Without going along with every stricture in Professor Alan Smithers' recent report and Channel 4 television programme, I reckon that there is enough wrong with the ideology which the National Council for Vocational Qualifications is trying to impose to justify extreme caution.

Mr Patten will no doubt receive plenty of advice on what to do with the second Dearing Report. Some of his more radical think-tank advisers will urge him to tear the whole thing up and start again, thereby giving himself the opportunity to have yet another bright new initiative. But his more immediate problems will concern the new Education Bill and the well-publicised opposition of a powerful cross-party selection of peers.

It is the proposals for student union reform which have roused most indignation. It is, quite simply, a bad Bill. "Attack student unions" has always been a surefire line at the Tory party conference, but until now that is where it has ended. When Lady Perry lines up with Lord Beloff to attack a Conservative measure, something has clearly gone wrong.

The teacher training sections of the Bill are no better. The plan to take teacher training away from the Higher Education Funding Council can only be seen as another attempt to weaken the links between the profession of teaching and higher education. This is an obvious recipe for lowering, not raising, quality.

Nor is it necessary to encourage more of the business of teacher training to be carried out in schools. This is essentially about cutting out the university teacher education departments and limiting them to a subordinate, agency function instead.

As the National Commission on Education brought out with admirable clarity, building up the quality and confidence of teachers is the fundamental requirement for any serious attempt to produce a world-class education system. This is not the way to do that. John Patten and Baroness Blatch, the Minister of Education, must find a way out of the corner they have painted themselves into.

● *The author is the former editor of* The Times Educational Supplement

PETER TREVINOR



John Patten at the frontline: criticism of primary education last year could have been levelled at any point over the last two decades

Left out in the cold no longer

Write with the left?

Help is at hand

Once the way to deal with left-handers at school was to install a tough regime with corporal punishment to force them to use their right. Nowadays, despite the fact that 10 per cent of school-goers are left-handed, the problem tends to be ignored altogether.

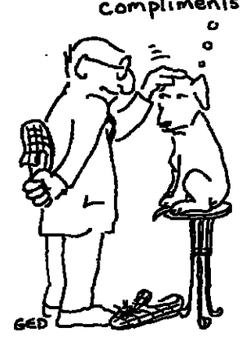
As a result of the amount of letters she received from worried parents, Diane Paul, director of the Centre For Left Handed studies in Manchester, has produced the first book of practical information for parents and teachers on helping left-handers.

In the past two years, left-handers have been the focus of a fierce academic debate. Stanley Coren, the professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, believes that left-handedness is largely the result of brain damage suffered in the womb or during birth.

"Deviant groups such as prisoners, delinquents and alcoholics all have more than their share of left-handers", he says, "and are more prone to allergies, too." Professor Coren's controversial studies also claim to show that left-handers die younger.

The brain damage, says Professor Coren, affects the left "hemisphere", which is more vulnerable, particularly in boys, causing the right hemisphere, controlling the left side of the body, to become the dominant one.

However, supporters of the brain-damage theory admit that left-handers also have their own areas of expertise. They are often musically gifted, better at spatial tasks and better at some sports — 30 per cent of the top fencers are left-handed, as are 60 per cent of the top table-tennis players.



Dr Marion Annett, lecturer in clinical psychology at Leicester University, vigorously defends left-handers from the charge of being essentially brain-damaged, saying that it all stems from genetics.

There is, she claims, a gene that encourages right-handedness, but in the 20 per cent of cases in which it is missing, people have a 50 per cent chance of becoming left-handed. This is supported by the fact that left-handed mothers are more likely to have left-handed children.

Dr Annett claims that it is actually strong right-handers who are at more of a disadvantage when it comes to strength, dexterity and certain mental abilities like maths. The issue is still very much a live one: only last month a detailed paper in the *British Journal of Psychology* heavily criticised Annett's claims.

Diane Paul's view of the controversy behind the practicalities of left-handed scissors and special pencil grip is that "both sides go over the top". She adds: "Left-handers don't need their problems exaggerated, nor are they some sort of elite group."

Her book includes a guide to left-handed knitting and detailed information on how to re-string and play a guitar left-handed. There is discussion on the possible link between left-handededness and dyslexia and Ms Paul gives tips such as seating a left-hander at the left end of a double desk and teaching some tasks like handicrafts by standing opposite the pupil so they can see a mirror image of themselves. This, of course, should be avoided when writing, unless the lesson is in mirror writing.

JEROME BURNE

● Left-Handed Helpline: an essential guide for teachers, teacher trainers and parents of left-handed children is published by Dextral Books, PO Box 52, South DO, Manchester M20 8PJ.

At one £15,000-a-year school, the state pays a large part of pupils' fees

Music-makers call the tune

One of the most extraordinary schools in England is to be found tucked behind inner-city Manchester's Victoria station in buildings that date from 1421 and lie not a stone's throw from one of Europe's ugliest shopping centres.

Among the many apparent contradictions is that most of the pupils at this £15,000-a-year independent boarding school have most of their fees paid by the state. And though it does well in examination league tables, entry is not by academic selection; indeed, the headmaster has no say in the selection of pupils at what can only be described as a centre of excellence.

The explanation unfolds as soon as the visitor enters Chetham's School of Music, to be engulfed in a variety of sounds, from piano to violin, flute to timpani, synthesizer to madrigals. The progress has been dramatic in the 24 years since the school opened: a failing boys' grammar has been turned into a thriving co-educational boarding school, one of Europe's best specialist music schools.

Chetham's, founded in 1653 as a Bluecoats orphanage for 40 poor boys, became a boys' direct grant grammar school in 1952. In 1969, when comprehensive education started, it was shut down, but that year the music school was formed by a group of staff, governors and local people, receiving Government approval in 1980 after a thorough inspection by school inspectors.

Government approval gave the school aided-pupil status introduced to encourage specialist music schools. The scheme now costs £6 million a year and provides help for 240 pupils at Chetham's, 29 at Yehudi Menhuin in Cobham, Surrey, 42 at Purcell, Harrow, 40 at Wells Cathedral school and 153 at the Royal Ballet School in west London.

Chetham's can offer 55 students, including about 20 sixth-formers, aided-pupil status every year, based on means-testing of their parents. In practice, most of the British pupils at the school receive all their tuition fees from the Government, but have to find part or all of the £3,350 a year boarding costs. There are 20 students from overseas. Chetham's also educates ten choristers from Manchester Cathedral.



Music takes up a third of the timetable at Chetham's

Boys and girls aged between seven and 18 are admitted to Chetham's, the only specialist music school of its kind and size in Britain, after taking musical auditions. The first usually attracts about 300 candidates who are whittled down to 100 after the final audition with Michael Brewer, the director of music. Children can enter the school at any age from seven — expert musical opinion generally favours an early start for string players. Pupils develop their specialist interest, which may be in an orchestral instrument, guitar, keyboard, voice, electronic music, composition or conducting. Chetham's even has the UK junior champion accordionist, Louise Savill, 15, who will take part in the 1994 junior world virtuoso championship.

Many pupils leave the school to perform or to study music at university or college. Based on a musical education yet not confined solely to music studies, Chetham's offers a broad curriculum. Last year, 35 per cent of the students went on to university — 21 per cent to read music, and 60 per cent to music colleges.

Music takes about a third of the timetable, and students spend about five hours a day in one of the school's 80 practice rooms. The national curriculum is broadly followed and pupils are usually limited to six GCSEs — music, mathematics and English, plus three or four other subjects, and three A-levels. Every pupil has two lessons a week on their first instrument and a shorter lesson on their second.

Chetham's orchestras have performed in the Aldeburgh and Bath festivals, the Music at Oxford Series, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Barbican in London. They have recently toured Ireland, Spain, Germany and America.

Peter Hullah, who plays the flute and piano but concedes that he would not be accepted as a pupil in his own school, is now in his second year as head and cannot conceal his enthusiasm for his new school, even agreeing to "play" the vaccuum cleaner in a recent charity concert at the Free Trade Hall.

Mr Hullah, a Church of England priest, was senior chaplain at King's College, Canterbury, and held senior posts at Sevenoaks School, Kent, before moving to Manchester. He says: "The work at Chetham's since 1969 has involved turning a grammar school into a specialist music school, a boys' school into a co-educational school and a day school into a boarding school. This task is by no means finished."

New boarding houses will be opened in January, classroom facilities are being improved and the school yard will be "greened" with grass and trees in time for the school's 25th anniversary to be celebrated in 1994-95.

At Chetham's all types of music from big band jazz to virtuoso violin are enjoyed. Anne Rhind, a housemistress and head of pastoral development, says: "The music education is classically based but you will hear heavy metal ringing out from the bedrooms." There is a concert every term and two or three lunchtime concerts a week, which are open to the public. All the pupils sing in choirs and play in the orchestras but there is much competition to play as soloists and in the school's chamber orchestra.

"One of the major pieces of work we have to do", says Mr Hullah, "is to help them to come to terms with themselves when things do not go right for them."

DAVID TYTLER

A chance to study the real tapestry of history

The National Trust has seen the light over education

The National Trust, was founded for "the nation's use and enjoyment". When Lord Lothian gave the trust Blicking Hall, its first great country estate in 1942, he expressly asked that the property be used "as a place from which education and learning would go forth".

Yet less than a decade ago, Angus Stirling, the present director-general, was told by the administrator of a property he was visiting, that "there is little here that would be of interest to children".

Over the past six years, the trust has been at pains to remedy not only outright hostility to children, but also its general passivity towards education. Mr Stirling says: "Children and learning were felt to be peripheral to the trust's activities. It has required a positive initiative to change that attitude".

Since 1987, when the trust's council made this change in policy, the movement has been gathering momentum and is set to consolidate that impetus in the run-up to its centenary next year. Tricia Lankester, the education manager for the past five years, says: "The trust's educational activities had existed in a very limp form. Nobody spoke about them."

Once education was established as one of the trust's key activities and not expected to make money, the attitudes changed. Almost 50 of staff are now directly involved in education, and the number of schools taking out corporate membership has risen from 3,000 to more than 5,000 in two years.

Recently renamed Education Group Membership, this facility entitles schools, in groups of 60 or under, to visit any number of properties throughout the season. The costs range from £14 for a school of under 50 pupils to £45 for more than 5,000 pupils. The wonder of it is that more schools do not take advantage of the trust's primary sources for art, history, geography, biology and environmental studies.



National Trust field studies

Last year, half a million schoolchildren visited trust properties. But admission figures vary widely between regions. Wessex recorded more than 43,000 pupil visits, whereas the Thames and Chiltern region took fewer than 3,000. Fourteenth-century Bodiam Castle, in East Sussex, received more than 18,000 pupils whereas 16th-century Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire, built for Bess of Hardwick and complete with contemporary furniture, tapestries, a permanent needlework exhibition, a country park and an 18th-century water-powered corn mill on the estate, received fewer than 4,000 schoolchildren.

"Not all sites are physically suitable or appropriate," says Ms Lankester. "Given that our promotion coincided with the biggest education upheaval since the Second World War, we aren't doing badly. And parental payment for school trips is voluntary." For the past two years, Grand Metropolitan Estates have financed 5,000 pupil visits from inner-city local authorities.

The Countryside and Coastal Guardianship scheme, in which pupils adopt a site and undertake conservation and fieldwork linked to the national curriculum, is to be extended this year to cover 16 such schemes around the country. Work with the wardens, such as dry-stone walling, tree-planting and stream clearing, brings an awareness of the sustainability and vulnerability of the landscape. In addition to 40 base camps suitable for conservation and holidays, the trust has a residential outdoor pursuits and field study centre on the South Pembrokeshire coast with three resident instructors holding a series of five-day programmes, which accommodate up to 40 children and four teachers from any school level.

The Young National Trust Theatre, sponsored by Barclays Bank, with a professional touring company, draws 8,000 schoolchildren a year to productions at nine properties. A new venture is called Performing Arts in Trust, working in schools with a follow-up participatory production at a local property. After a two year workshop in an east London school run by this scheme, the children mounted their own performance at Sutton House, Hackney, the oldest vernacular building in London, using the carved oak furniture as props. After three days at Lanhydrock House in Cornwall, the children were talking about "my archways", "my pre-Raphaelite painting" — and finally: "If Lanhydrock was a school, I'd go to it."

ELUNED PRICE

● The National Trust education pack is available from the education officer at 30 Queen Anne's Gate, London SWIH 9AS.

SIB investigates switch of Clerical Medical funds to Cyprus

BY TONY HETHERINGTON

THE Securities and Investments Board has begun a secret investigation of how £20 million of investors' money left the control of a big insurance company and came under the influence of a tiny Caribbean bank and an obscure Cypriot firm.

The investigation, under Section 105 of the Financial Services Act, is headed by Richard Coleman, a partner in Coopers & Lybrand, the firm of accountants. He is examining the circumstances in which Clerical Medical International, the Isle of Man arm of Clerical Medical Group, parted with $30 million (£20 million) which is now in a bank account in Limassol, Cyprus.

In a separate development, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) has brought charges against one of its members, Bankhall Investment Management, of Altrincham, Cheshire, and against two Bankhall directors, Paul Hogarth and David Warnock. It is alleged that the company and its directors were managing the money for Clerical Medical at the time it was transferred to Cyprus.

A Section 105 investigation carries wide powers to question companies and individuals, and is comparable to company investigations carried out by the Department of Trade and Industry. A spokeswoman for the SIB declined to comment specifically on the investigation, but said that Section 105 might be of use when a regulatory body, such as Fimbra, found that its own enquiries made it necessary to question persons or companies outside its membership. In such circumstances, the board would take enquiries into areas beyond Fimbra's jurisdiction.

The investigation centres on a bond scheme managed by Bankhall, on behalf of Clerical Medical International, under which CMI clients' funds would be used to deal in prime bank guarantees. It is believed the funds were transferred by Mr Warnock to an account at Lombard National Westminster in Cyprus. That account is in the name of Hanover Bank, which was licensed as recently as 1992 by the government of Antigua. CMI claims it did not authorise the transfer and that Mr Warnock exceeded his authority.

Hanover was to use the money in support of the purchase of prime bank guarantees via Kinitor, a Cyprus company, which was actually to obtain the guarantees from yet another company, Corporate Financial Investments, of London.

One question raised by investigators has been the need for Hanover Bank and Kinitor to be involved in the deal, since Bankhall could presumably have dealt directly with Corporate Financial Investments, and the money need never have been transferred to Cyprus. Kinitor is a recently registered Cyprus company, controlled by American and Lebanese owners. The investigation will also consider the relationship between Hanover Bank and Corporate Financial Investments. Though the two are ostensibly based thousands of miles apart, Hanover's managing director, Tony Fitzpatrick, an Irish businessman, has been found to use the same London address and telephone number as Peter Bolger, an Irish businessman who is a director of Corporate Financial Investments.

Mr Fitzpatrick, who was press spokesman for the Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey in the 1970s, has been absent from his London office for some time and was unavailable for comment. Hanover Bank's only other London director, Nicholas Brooks, of Gane Jackson, the firm of accountants, did not return telephone calls inviting him to comment on the investigation.

Clerical Medical International, which has indemnified investors against any loss, has been attempting to recover the £20 million from Cyprus, but Kinitor has obtained a temporary court order freezing the account. The case is to resume on January 26.

Nigel Gardner, deputy chief executive of Clerical Medical International, said: "There is lots and lots of activity in the background, between the regulators. I am still confident that we shall get the money back."

Fimbra's action against Bankhall's directors alleges imprudence in the management of investors' funds. It is also alleged that the company handled investors' funds without authorisation. If the charges are proved, the regulatory body could fine the company and the two directors, who have been suspended by Fimbra since August, or it could rule that they are not fit to remain in financial services. However, sources close to the investigation point out that Bankhall itself has not been suspended by Fimbra, indicating that outright expulsion is unlikely.

Mr Hogarth said: "We still expect to be totally exonerated, and we do expect the money to be returned." Mr Warnock added that Bankhall was co-operating fully with Fimbra's enquiries. He said: "We have a very good relationship with them, and we think everything will be sorted out."

Meanwhile, the World Bank, the US Federal Reserve and the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Commission have all issued warnings concerning investment in prime bank guarantees, prime bank notes, and prime bank letters of credit.

The Manx authorities said: "The staff of the Financial Supervision Commission, the Bank of England and the US Federal Reserve are unaware of the legitimate use of any financial instrument known by these names."

Christmas spending spree leaves a hangover for retailers' margins

Susan Gilchrist says that though festive sales soared, retailers' *profits may not*



Counting the cost of higher sales at Christmas: from left James McAdam, Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, Sir James Blyth and Anita Roddick

The Christmas spending boom on the high street may have boosted retail volumes but analysts gave warning that higher sales will not automatically lead to higher profits for many retailers.

Although Britain's big retailers are expected to deliver upbeat trading statements in the coming weeks, many were forced to cut prices in the run-up to Christmas, and therefore squeeze margins, in order to increase demand.

John Richards of NatWest Securities said: "Sales volumes do not tell the whole story. In a low-growth, low-inflation economy, retailers are not passing on price rises and many are reducing prices. While the volume figures may look healthy, the translation of sales volumes into profits varies enormously."

His view is echoed by Caroline Stewart of Warburgs: "It will be very interesting to see which retailers have managed to contain the damage to gross margins." She also believes the performance between retailers will vary enormously.

Overall, Mr Richards predicts a 5 per cent increase in retail sales volumes in December, a further strengthening of the recent trend which showed a 3.6 per cent rise in the three months to November. The Retail Consortium shares his confidence, forecasting a 5-6 per cent rise in sales volumes over the Christmas period.

The best-performing retailers are expected to be Marks and Spencer, Next, Storehouse and Woolworth, part of the Kingfisher Group, where Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy is chairman. Dixons, the leading electrical retailer, is up against a bumper year in 1992, when the craze for computer games boosted sales by 15 per cent. For 1993, Dixons is forecast to increase Christmas sales by about 6 per cent.

The trading statement from Signet, formerly the Ratners jewellery group where James McAdam is chairman, will be critical as the Christmas period accounts for almost half of annual turnover. The group is widely believed to want a capital reconstruction but first needs to return to profit.

Retail statistics have highlighted jewellery as a particularly weak area in recent months. But last week Goldsmiths Group, the luxury jewellery chain, announced a 13 per cent rise in December sales. Signet is unlikely to match that but after two years of negative like-for-like sales growth, analysts are expecting a small upturn from improved performance at H Samuel and Ernest Jones. Sales at Ratners will probably fall further.

Mr Richards says Signet's strategy of sacrificing sales for margins appears to be working and many retail analysts are forecasting a small profit for the group this year.

Boots is due to kick off the Christmas trading announcements and Sir James Blyth, chief executive, is expected to deliver news of a typically robust performance at Boots The Chemist.

The Body Shop is not scheduled to make a Christmas trading statement, despite the importance of the period to overall sales. But analysts expect Anita Roddick, managing director, will have seen a 4-5 per cent second-half sales rise with flat underlying like-for-like sales growth.

While anecdotal evidence suggests the spending bonanza has extended into the new year sales period, it will come to an abrupt end thereafter, said Peter Warburton of Flemings, who is forecasting 0 per cent real spending growth for the year. He believes the combination of paying off expensive credit card debt used to finance the Christmas spree, low pay awards and tax rises taking effect from April will squeeze disposable incomes and dampen spending.

Miners with the mettle to come out on top

SINKING a shovel into a patch of foreign soil is always a risky business, if only because nothing more than pure dirt could come out.

If, however, the digging hand is that of a disciplined miner who has faithfully proved his deposit, and whose cost structure is kept comfortably below the metal's world price, then there are some grounds for hope.

After recent years of being unfashionable, the mining sector has suddenly woken up. Several floats are planned in 1994 — of which Ashanti Gold, which could be valued at $1 billion, will be an early highlight — and there is a mountain of money earmarked for investment in the sector.

The Warburg-backed Mercury World Mining Trust that will devote itself to quoted mining and metals securities worldwide, proved to be Britain's biggest ever investment trust launch when application lists closed on December 8.

Julian Baring of Mercury Asset Management, has an embarrassment of riches to invest — £426 million was subscribed to the new investment trust that sought a minimum £50 million, which suggests that mining shares have struck a chord with the market as an investment opportunity.

The Times portfolio of five mining shares for 1994 has been selected with the theme of emerging markets in mind, has an international flavour, and is weighted towards gold — while giving a nod towards copper.

Anglo American: South Africa as a country and a stock market is hedged with a host of political and economic ifs and buts. But before the April 27 election, on which so much hope for peace and economic development is pinned, the western investment world — and American investors in particular — are sensing that the South African market is one to back.

Anglo is an obvious vehicle to back a broad spectrum of the SA economy — from gold, diamonds and platinum through to industry and commerce. Anglo is internationally held and traded, and any decided improvement in the SA economy that will benefit Anglo's 1995 profits and dividends will be well anticipated by astute investors in 1994.

Monarch Resources: the new management team led by Michael Beckett as chairman and Tony Clall as chief executive, is now firmly in its stride, so 1994 should bring the best news in years from this Venezuela-focused gold company. Once the La Camorra gold project, due for start-up in June, is up and running, and as cash flow from its Revemin operation grows stronger, international expansion within the Americas is probable.

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold: the company's sole asset is an 80 per cent interest in PT Freeport Indonesia, explorer and miner of copper, gold and silver in Irian Jaya, Indonesia. The reserves are extensive, the cost structure impressively low, and the profits outlook — despite an uncertain copper price — is encouraging.

TVX Gold: the company has interests in six operating gold mines — four in South America, two in North America — of which it operates two. However, TVX's corporate partners in the other mines are RTZ, Placer, and Anglo American, so the company's pedigree is well established. Group gold production, at a cash cost of below $200 an ounce, rose steadily in 1993, and the exploration potential at the 50 per cent owned La Colpa mine in Chile is promising.

SHARE	PRICE
Anglo American	£34.37
Freeport-McMoRan Cop.	£16.88
Monarch Resources	206p
Ntugini Mining	251p
TVX Gold	450p

Ntugini Mining: if ever there was an award for perseverance and faith, then it should go to Geoff Loudon, Niugini's chairman, who has long fought for the day when the Lihir gold project in Papua New Guinea progresses from the drawing board. After years of negotiations, the $609 million project is due to come into production in 1996 and will be in the capable hands of RTZ as operator.

It is the largest undeveloped resource outside South Africa, containing an estimated 42.5 million ounces of gold whose average operating costs should be under $200 an ounce. Lihir is potentially rewarding, assuming operational stability in PNG, and positive investment sentiment should complement Niugini's profitable gold interests elsewhere.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Russian deal for Olivetti

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

INTERNATIONAL concern over the Russian election has masked the process of converting Russia's mighty military machine to peaceful use, including the 14 million ecu (£10.5 million) deal Olivetti, the Italian computers group, has secured to turn 16,000 Red Army officers into businessmen.

The contract, part of a European Commission teaching programme, has been signed by Elea, Olivetti's professional services arm. It foresees Olivetti as leader of the three-year teaching project in co-operation with Thomson-Sodetag of France, Gopa of Germany and Isvor-Fiat of Italy. The four-stage transformation programme, aimed at turning military officers into managers and entrepreneurs for small and medium-sized businesses, will be undertaken in close co-operation with the Russian State Committee for Higher Education.

Initially, 15 regional training and counselling centres will be set up in Russia and 400 special teachers will be given six months training in Russia and in Western Europe, including direct exposure to corporate management problems at Western firms.

Only in year two of the project will the officers start their four-month training courses, which will concentrate on company management, entrepreneurial activities and functions such as sales, marketing and logistics.

Sara McConnell counts the candidates

Leeds leaderless a year on


Barr: determined search


Boyes: capable candidate

The Leeds Permanent building society is well on the way to going a year without a chief executive. It was last February that Mike Blackburn announced his departure to head the Halifax building society.

Headhunters working on behalf of the Leeds, the fifth-largest society, had to go back to square one in October, when a planned merger with the smaller National & Provincial fell through.

The collapse meant not only the loss of a deal that would have created the biggest merger in the history of the building society movement but also the loss of the proposed mega-society's chief executive designate, David O'Brien.

Mr O'Brien, chief executive of the National & Provincial since 1990, was headhunted last year for the job of Leeds' chief executive. But the directors of the two societies then hatched a more ambitious plot, using the vacancy at the top of the Leeds as the starting point for merger talks.

Mr O'Brien's non-hierarchical management style, already introduced at National & Provincial and at odds with the traditional building society approach, was one of the main reasons for the collapse of merger talks, as the Leeds took fright. Roger Boyes, the Leeds executive director, took up the reins again as acting chief executive. A disappointed Mr O'Brien is back at the N & P, out of the running.

So who is in the running? The Leeds is said to have redoubled its efforts, replacing one firm of headhunters with another, the new firm looking inside and outside the building society movement. One difficulty with many potential candidates working for other societies is that they are crown princes expecting to become king (Peter Robinson at the Woolwich, for example). Hiring managers with experience from outside the movement is catching on (Mr O'Brien came from Rank Xerox) as societies finally own up to being commercial organisations.

Mike Jackson, chief executive of the Birmingham Midshires, the thirteenth biggest society also has outside experience. At 45, he is the youngest chief executive of a top-20 building society. Since his arrival in 1990, from the Bank of America, he has turned round an ailing society, recording a 151 per cent rise in pre-tax profit last year, with more expected this year. He has 15 years' retail financial services experience in the UK and America.

However, a Birmingham Midshires spokesman said that Mr Jackson had stated "that he is not in the running".

Ken Culley, chief executive of the Bournemouth-based Portman building society, the 15th largest, is another possible for the Leeds and is a building society man through and through. In his ten years with the Portman, he has preserved its identity through several mergers, and helped it to survive in the face of threats from larger predators, insiders say. Mr Culley said the suggestion that he could become the Leeds' next chief executive was "news to me". He added: "The Leeds has a strong team and it could go on for ages without having a chief executive."

John Wriglesworth, building society analyst with UBS, agrees. He said: "The Leeds is a cash-generating machine and its direction was set by Mike Blackburn. Roger Boyes is certainly capable of being chief executive, but Malcolm Barr [the Leeds chairman] wants to look at all the candidates."

Mr Barr said: "We are determined to find the right *persona* for the job. In the meantime, the business is being more than capably run by the society's executive management group."

The Leeds cannot, however, go on without a chief executive for ever. Mr Wriglesworth and others want to know details of its strategy and direction. Past performance is no guide to the future, but students of the societies may recall that the merger with the N & P was the third time that the Leeds has tried to merge with another society to get a chief executive. It targeted the Town & Country in 1986, and, before that, the Leeds & Holbeck. The Leeds is also on record as saying that it intends to grow by mergers.

New BP oil find off Shetlands

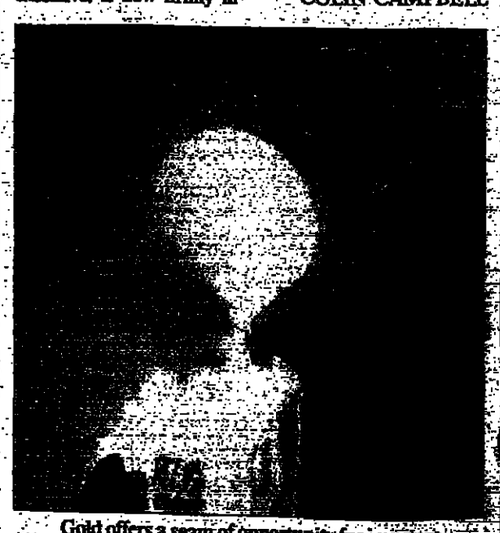
BY OUR CITY STAFF

BRITISH Petroleum has discovered a second large oil field west of the Shetland Isles, but full development of the site is threatened by the weak price of oil.

The new well, located about 100 miles west of the Shetlands, is believed to contain at least 500 million barrels of oil. This is even larger than BP's first discovery in the same region — known as quadrant 204 — at the beginning of last year, which is estimated to be between 250 million and 500 million barrels.

However, BP and Shell, its 50-50 partner in the project, face heavy costs and a long lead time before they can start production. The new well, which is in the Atlantic, is under about 1,500 feet of water — more than twice as deep as any field in the North Sea. The region also lacks the basic infrastructure that has been developed in the North Sea. Experts believe the costs of extracting the oil will run into billions of pounds.

It is therefore expected BP and Shell will opt to develop the field in phases, given the low price of oil, now at about $13 a barrel, which has made companies more cautious about expensive developments. But even if BP goes ahead with development of the new well, it is unlikely to start production before the end of the decade, given the lead time required to assess the cheapest and most effective method of extraction.


Gold offers a seam of opportunity for investors

BBC1

7.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2487845) **7.10 Tales of a Wise King and the Devil** (r) (4158845) **7.15 Smoggies** (r) (1192319) **7.40 Playdays** (r) (s) (8993048)

8.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2173951) **8.10 Dwarfnose.** Fantasy tale about a boy who is kidnapped by a witch (2885593) **8.35 Defenders of the Earth** (r). (Ceefax) (1285319)

9.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7296406) **9.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles** (r). (Ceefax) (7228593)

9.25 FILM: Spirit Rider. Children's drama about a young man who has grown up in a succession of foster homes who is suddenly sent back to his family reserve (s) (48689723)

11.00 FILM: Captain Horatio Hornblower RN (1951) starring Gregory Peck. Sea saga, based on C.S. Forester's 19th-century naval hero. Directed by Raoul Walsh (36800715)

12.55 Regional News and weather (67761154)

1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (44283048)

1.05 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (89148048) **1.25 Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories: Boo!** starring Eddie Bracken and Evelyn Keyes as a pair of benevolent ghosts. (Ceefax) (s) (89140864) **1.50 Cartoon.** *Walky Talky Hawky* (98759390)

2.00 Film: Quo Vadis? (1951) starring Robert Taylor, Deborah Kerr and Peter Ustinov. Epic drama set in Rome at the time of Emperor Nero. Directed by Mervyn LeRoy (45910067)

4.45 Final Score (2666512)

5.05 News (Ceefax) and weather (2118932)

5.20 The Flintstones (r) (1844512) **5.45 Neighbours** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (357222)

6.10 Family Watch. The first of a new series in which the cameras eavesdrop on the domestic lives of four families living in the north of England. This evening we discover how the Birch family from Derbyshire and the Champneys of South Wirral coped with the Christmas celebrations (s) (605512)

6.40 FILM: Uncle Buck (1989) starring John Candy, Jean Louisa Kelly and Macaulay Culkin. Comedy about three children being looked after by their bungling bachelor uncle. John Hughes directs. (Ceefax) (s) (8746406)

8.10 A Question Of Sport presented by David Coleman. Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Andy Sinton, Chris Lewis, Mark James and Clare Wood. (Ceefax) (303357)

8.40 News (Ceefax) and weather (642883)

9.00 A Dark-Adapted Eye. The concluding part of the drama by Barbara Vine (Ruth Rendell) of dark family secrets. Starring Helena Bonham Carter, Celia Imrie and Sophie Ward. (Ceefax) (s) (90731845)



Cher, Nicholson, Sarandon, Pfeiffer (10.35pm)

10.35 FILM: The Witches of Eastwick (1987) starring Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon and Michelle Pfeiffer. A dramatisation of John Updike's novel about three divorcées living in a quiet town each longing for the man of their dreams to enter their lives. Directed by George Miller. (Ceefax) (54155613). **Wales:** Rugby Special Wales 11.25 Film: The Witches of Eastwick 1.15-2.10 Robert Palmer

12.25am Robert Palmer – Riding High. *The singer recorded in concert at London's Albert Hall* (7525549) **1.20 Weather** (2671177)

BBC2

7.00 FILM: Madame Satan (1930, b/w) starring Kay Johnson, Reginald Denny and Lillian Roth. Cecil B. DeMille's musical extravaganza (26734241)

8.50 A Week To Remember (b/w). Pathé newsclips from 40 years ago this week (6692319)

9.00 FILM: Strawberry Blonde (1941, b/w) starring James Cagney as a turn-of-the-century New York dentist agonising over whether he married the right woman. With Olivia de Havilland and Rita Hayworth. Directed by Raoul Walsh (88082898)

10.35 FILM: The Gallant Hours (1960, b/w) starring James Cagney and Dennis Weaver. The story of the Second World War Admiral "Bull" Halsey as he prepares to outwit the Japanese Admiral Yamamoto in the battle of Guadalcanal. Directed by Robert Montgomery (62556998)

12.30 Racing From Cheltenham. The 12.40, 1.15, 1.50 and 2.25 races. The commentators are Peter O'Sullevan and Peter Scudamore (53830338)

2.40 Rugby Union. Live coverage of the second half of the postponed CIS Divisional Championship final between London and the South West at Twickenham. Introduced by Chris Rea. The commentators are Nigel Starmer-Smith and Paul Ackford (s) (3955690)

3.35 World Darts. Action from the last four first round matches in the Embassy world championship, introduced by Dougie Donnelly. With commentary by Tony Green and Sid Waddell (s) (69160970)

6.00 Wildlife On Two: Marmot Mountain. Sir David Attenborough narrates this profile of the overweight squirrel-lookalike inhabitants of the Austrian Tyrol (r). (Ceefax) (691319)

6.25 CHOICE **The Art of Conducting** (s) (116574)



Bernstein's classic musical restaged (7.25pm)

7.25 CHOICE **On the Town** (s) (4015154)

8.55 Winter On 2 (r) (695116)

9.00 FILM: All Of Me *(1984) starring Steve Martin, Lily Tomlin and Victoria Tennant.* Off-beat comedy about an attorney who discovers that half his body has been taken over by the soul of a malevolent millionairess. Directed by Carl Reiner. (Ceefax) (4241)

10.30 CHOICE **Tartan Shorts.** (Ceefax) (s) (985574)

11.20 World Darts. Highlights of the Embassy World Professional championship from Frimley Green, introduced by Dougie Donnelly (s) (874154)

12.20am Weather (8031433)

12.25 FILM: Hail, Hail, Rock 'n' Roll (1987). A musical tribute to Chuck Berry on his 60th birthday. With contributions from, among others, Bo Didley, Roy Orbison, Eric Clapton, Linda Ronstadt and Bruce Springsteen. Directed by Taylor Hackford (s) (490742). Ends at **2.25**

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CHOICE



The Princess of Wales on walkabout (ITV, 10.40pm)

Diana — A Princess Alone
ITV, 10.40pm

As the Princess of Wales takes her leave of the paparazzi, this documentary looks back on her life since the separation and speculates about her future. You might wonder what more can be added to the millions of words already written and uttered about the breakdown of the royal marriage and its possible damage to the institution of the monarchy. The danger of overkill does not stop the film retracing well-worn paths, though it claims to present new footage and *fresh insights. Professional* royal watchers Andrew Morton and Anthony Holden are well to the fore and in the tradition of British television balance, the programme tries to look at the failure of the marriage from the points of view of both parties.

On the Town
BBC2, 7.25pm

Leonard Bernstein's joyous musical returns to the concert hall with an international cast of singers and the London Symphony Orchestra under Michael Tilson Thomas. Those who know *On the Town* mainly by the Frank Sinatra-Gene Kelly film had best put that classic piece of cinema out their minds. This is a different experience. Confined to the concert platform the tale of three American sailors on wartime leave in New York, and the girls they meet, cannot have the fluency and movement of cinema. But it loses none of the vitality, *thanks to the strength of Bernstein's score* and the contributions of Frederica von Stade, Cleo Laine, Samuel Ramey and others. Archive film is tellingly used to evoke New York in the 1940s.

Tartan Shorts
BBC2, 10.30pm

Of these three short films from Scotland the longest and most inventive imagines Franz Kafka (played by Richard E. Grant) trying to finish the first line to his famous short story, *Metamorphosis*. As he struggles to decide what poor Gregor Samsa has been transformed into, *he has strange encounters* with a man who sharpens knives, a school for young dancers and Phyllis Logan as the owner of a joke and novelty factory. *Tartan Shorts* is supposed to be a showcase for new talent, though the writer-director of the Kafka piece is the hardly unknown actor, Peter Capaldi. The other *films are slighter.* They concern a Glasgow tenement's revenge on a hire purchase tout and the misadventures of a stand-in weatherman.

The Art of Conducting
BBC2, 6.25pm

Part two of an entertaining trawl of the musical archives highlights Europeans who cemented their reputations in the United States. Since, until Leonard Bernstein, there were *no* American conductors of *international standing, the field was wide open.* Among those filled it were the turbulent Toscanini, the dour and flawless Fritz Reiner and the ruthless, bull-necked George Szell. The programme also reminds us that despite his apparently east European accent, Leopold Stokowski was born in London. Moving back to Europe, the film offers an unflattering appraisal of Von Karajan but curiously fails to mention a single British conductor. Perhaps they are being held over for a future project.

Peter Waymark

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (1725241)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. The first of a new series of the celebrity game show (6212932) **9.55 Disney Cartoon Time** Triple bill featuring Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy (5724951)

10.30 FILM: Robin Hood (1973) Disney's animated version of the story of the Sherwood Forest hero. With the voices of Brian Bedford, Phil Harris and Peter Ustinov. Directed by Wolfgang Reitherman (52947) **12.00 Home and Away.** Australian family drama serial. (Teletext) (75406)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (29728929)

12.40 Coronation Street. Last Friday's episode (r). (Teletext) (9578154)

1.10 Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour. International model Cindy Crawford and actor Timothy Brantley introduce amazing feats from some of the world's top stuntwomen (17970)

2.00 FILM: The Enemy Below (1957) starring Robert Mitchum and Curt Jurgens. Second World War drama about the tense cat-and-mouse game between a German U-boat and a US Navy destroyer in the North Atlantic. Directed by Dick Powell (939574)

3.45 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (180796)

4.15 FILM: The First Great Train Robbery (1978) starring Sean Connery, Donald Sutherland and Lesley-Anne Down. The story of a gentleman crook and an ace peterman's plan to rob a train containing a British Army payroll on its way to the Crimean War. Directed by Michael Crichton. Continues after the news. (Teletext) (771406)

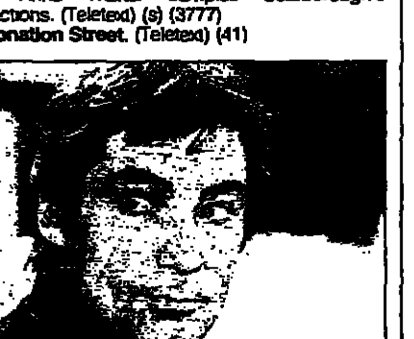
5.15 News (Teletext) and weather (4454406)

5.30 FILM: The First Great Train Robbery continued (77883)

6.30 Fantastic Facts. A programme of stranger than *fiction true stories* (s) (57)

7.00 Wish You Were Here . . ? Judith Chalmers reports from San Francisco and Yosemite Park; John Carter enthuses over the wildlife of the Galapagos islands, and Anna Walker samples Scarborough's attractions. (Teletext) (s) (3777)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (41)



Dalton takes on a drugs baron (8.00pm)

8.00 FILM: Licence To Kill (1989) starring Timothy Dalton as James Bond. In this yarn, Bond, on the trail of a murderous drugs baron, goes undercover as a hit man, but then his cover is blown. Directed by John Glen (79730406)

10.25 News (Teletext) and weather (719680)

10.40 CHOICE **Diana – A Princess Alone.** *(Teletext)* (615203)

11.40 FILM: Fort Apache, The Bronx (1981) starring Paul Newman, Edward Asner and Ken Wahl. A drama, told in episodic adventures, about life in a Bronx police precinct. Directed by Daniel Petrie (94016970)

2.00 FILM: A Night In Casablanca (1946, b/w). A classic Marx Brothers comedy in which Groucho becomes manager of a hotel where the previous incumbents have been bumped off by a nasty Nazi. Directed by Archie Mayo (60753)

3.30 FILM: The Secret Mark of D'Artagnan (1962) starring George Nader. Swashbuckling adventure directed by Siro Marcellini (41655)

5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (62278)

5.30 ITN Morning News (38162). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Pole Position. Cartoon about a crazy car racing team (r) (5058715)

7.00 The Big Breakfast. Includes guests Take That and cartoon fun with *Sonic the Hedgehog* (12574)

9.00 Saved By the Bell. American high school comedy series (r) (86512)

9.30 The Lone Ranger (b/w). The masked hero helps a friend who has fallen foul of a fraudster (12425)

10.00 Transworld Sport. A repeat of Sunday's special review of the sporting stories of 1993 (31609)

11.00 The Morning Line. Bank Holiday horse racing preview (5116)

11.30 The World at Your Feet. Rob Jago walks through the rainforest which covers Australia's Bellenden Ker range of hills to the slopes of Mount Bartle Frere (r). (Teletext) (40390)

12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning entertainment (46609)

1.30 Channel 4 Racing for Royal Windsor. John Francome introduces live coverage of the 1.40 (Tote Credit Handicap Hurdle), 2.10 (Thompson Investments Novices Chase), 2.40 (Cheveley Park Stud New Year's Day Ltd Handicap) and 3.10 (Party Politics Handicap Chase) races (59816)

3.30 Profiles of Nature: Wilderness Magic. A *celebration of the work of nature cinematographer* Dan Gibson (72512)



Guest celebrity Shirley Anne Field (4.30pm)

4.30 Countdown. *The first of a new series of the words* and numbers game, presented by Richard Whiteley. The actress Shirley Anne Field is in the Dictionary Corner. (Teletext) (s) (54)

5.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's music and topical chat show hosted by Gay Byrne (s) (3390)

6.00 The Wonder Years. American teenage comedy series starring Fred Savage (r). (Teletext) (19)

6.30 Roseanne. Wisecracking blue-collar comedy (r) (s) (99). Followed by **News** summary and weather

7.00 White Fury – The Untamed Tibet. A documentary *following a team of white-water rafters as they travel* down the freezing waters of Tibet's River Rhongbuk which cascades from the side of Mount Everest (r) (3241)

8.00 Brookside. Topical soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (1357)

8.30 Desmond's. Gentle comedy series set in a Peckham, south London, barber's. Tonight Shirley is depressed but Desmond is too concerned about a dominoes tournament to notice. Starring Norman Beaton and Carmen Munroe (r). (Teletext) (s) (9574)

9.00 *Cutting Edge: Exposure.* *A look at how 24 top* managers from Rockwater International fared when they went on a course at John Ridgway's School of Adventure in Scotland. They were expected to jump into icy seas, camp on a deserted island and climb mountains in gale-force winds (r). (Teletext) (9425)

10.00 Homicide: Life On the Street. American police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (2512)

11.00 The American Football Big Match. Action from the last weekend of regular league matches (166777)

12.20am Evening Shade. Small-town America comedy. Starring Burt Reynolds and Marilu Henner (r) (s) (3943810)

12.50 Let the Blood Run Free. Australian black comedy set in a *St Elsewhere*-type hospital (r). (Teletext) (s) (4909839). Ends at **1.15**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**: **4.00am** Steve Edwards with the Early Breakfast Show (FM only) **7.00** Bruno Brookes with *news, weather and travel* **10.00** Top 100 Albums **12.30pm** Newsbeat **5.80** Claire Sturgess Drivetime **8.30** Eric Clapton in Concert **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Adrian Love **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Elizabeth Power **1.00pm** Showstoppers **2.00** Ed Stewart **4.00** A Talent to Amuse (r) **5.00** John Dunn **7.00** A Legend in His Time: Andy Stewart **8.00** Why Should the Devil Have All the Best Players? Music in the Salvation Army (r) **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Jazz Score **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** *All in the Family* **10.10** The Adventures of Tintin (r) **11.00** Johnnie Walker, with the Holiday Alternative **1.10pm** Sportscall **2.30** Sport on Five: Bank Holiday Special, with John Inverdale. Football: Arsenal v QPR, Chelsea v Everton, Sheffield Wednesday v Spurs; Rugby Union: London v South West; *5.85 Sports Report* **6.00** They Think It's All Over (r) **6.30** Kiss Me Quick (1/20) **7.15** Bedknob and Broomstick (6/10) **7.30** Champion Sport, including *at 8.00* Leeds United v Aston Villa **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin; Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.10** British News **6.15** The Learning World **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** The World at the Time 1894 **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report Special **9.15** Unconsidered Trifles **9.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **9.45** Sports Roundup *10.00 News Summary* **10.01** Heritage **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin: News in German **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Inspiration **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Off the Rails* **2.45** The Multitrack Sessions **3.00** World News **3.15** Let Down Your Hair **4.00** World News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell: *News in German* **5.00** World News **5.05** World Business Report Special **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.10** British News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** World Business Report Special **11.15** On Screen **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Quote, Unquote **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Inspiration **3.00** News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** John Peel **4.00** World News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Robert Booth **10.00** Great CD Give-Away **12.00** Henry Kelly **2.00pm** John Williams: The guitarist talks to Michael Mappin **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Karaoke Gilbert and Sullivan: with Robert Booth **7.00** Musical Landscapes. See Choice **8.00** Evening Concert: Wedding music **10.00** John Baish **1.00-5.00am** Sarah Ward

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Mitch Johnson **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00am** Paul Coyte

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour (1032864) **2.00** Disney Cartoons (95794837) **2.10-3.45** Film: Disney's Young Again (553203) **4.10-5.15** Film: The Assisi Underground (9001154) **5.30-6.30** Film: The Assisi Undergound (77883) **2.00am** Sport AM (59549) **3.00** Memories Of 1970-1989 (4423433) **3.55** Cher – One To One *(78813907)* **4.20** *Jobfinder* (8084839) **5.05-5.30** America's Top 10 (7675164)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.10pm Cliff Richard In Concert (8007154) **2.10-3.45** Film: Disney's Young Again (553203) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here (3777) **2.00am** Film: The Quest (346584) **3.45-5.00** Jobfinder (1648920) *5.00-5.30 Asian Eye (82278)*

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour (8007154) **2.10-3.45** Film: Young Again (553203) **2.00am** Sport AM (59549) **3.00** Memories Of 1970-1989 (4423433) **3.55** Cher – One To One (78813907) **4.20** Jobfinder (8084839) **5.05-5.30** America's Top 10 (7675164) **5.40-5.59** Cartoon Time

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 2.00pm-2.10 Disney Cartoon (95794837) **5.30-6.30** Film: The First Great Train Robbery (77883) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here (3777) **2.00am-3.00** Sport A.M. (59549)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour (1032864) **2.00** Cartoon (95794837) **2.10-3.45** *Film:* Disney's Young Again (553203) **5.00am-5.30** Freescreen (82278)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour (1032864) **2.00** Disney Cartoon (95794837) **2.10-3.45** Film: Young Again (553203) **2.00am** The New Music (59549) **3.00** ITV *Chart Show* (88346) **4.00** *Film:* Fast And Loose (4974723) **5.15-5.30** Nite Bites (9588556)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour (1032864) **2.00** Cartoon (95794837) **2.10-3.45** Film: Young Again (Lindsay Wagner, Robert Urich, Jack Gilford) (553203) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here (3777) **2.00am** Sport A.M. (59549) **3.00** Memories Of 1970-1989 (4423433) **3.55** Cher – One To One (78613907) **4.20** Jobfinder (8084839) **5.05-5.30** America's Top 10 (7675164)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.10pm Cindy Crawford – Stuntwomen: World Tour *(1032864)* **2.00** *Disney Cartoon* (95794637) **2.10-3.45** Film: Disney's Young Again (553203) **2.00am** The New Music (59549) **3.00** ITV Chart Show (88346) **4.00** Film: Fast And Loose (4974723) **5.15-5.30** Nite Bites

S4C

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (12574) **9.00** Saved By The Bell (86512) **9.30** The Lone Ranger (12425) **10.00** Transworld Sport (31609) **11.00** The Morning Line (5116) **11.30** The World At Your Feet (40390) **12.30pm** Slot Meithrin (18241) **1.00** Roseanne (15881) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing (59816) **3.30** Opening Shot (35) **4.00** Slot 23 (9796) **5.00** Batman (4883) **5.30** Countdown (28) **6.00** Newyddion (564703) **6.10** Cwlwm Serch (319338) **6.15** Tocyn Tymor (765999) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (1319) **7.30** Delweddau (83) **8.00** Mor-Ladron (1357) **8.30** Newyddion (977116) **8.45** Sgorio (391135) **9.45** Snapshots (575048) **10.00** Brookside *(74777)* **10.30** Cheers (83425) **11.00** American Football (453715) **12.15am** Simply Red

RTE1

Starts: 10.55am Mighty Mouse And Friends (82298135) **11.20** Santa Barbara (82751048) **11.45** Shape Of The Wind (6856864) **12.25pm** The Lyrics Board (17005222) **12.55** The Love Boat (81024593) **12.55** News Headlines & Weather (6968048) **1.50** News Review '93 (8138593) **2.50** Film: Fiddler On The Roof (40602715) **6.00** The Angelus (9775512) **6.01** Six-One (2176609) *6.14 Time Out (9762048) 6.20 Know Your* Sport (4736777) **6.50** Film: The Living Daylights (96920574) **9.10** News And Weatherline (8983609) **9.25** Off The Record (6720796) **10.05** JFK: Reckless Youth (1421845) **11.45** Late News (6015574)

NETWORK2

Starts: 11.30am The Beatbox (30860375) **1.30pm** Film: *Avalanche (63134609)* **2.30** Bosco (26926715) **3.00** The Den (89346512) **3.03** Brum (12707203) **3.15** Happy Birthday (25885796) **3.30** Tir Na Hoige (54574086) **3.45** The Roadrunner Show (54562241) **4.00** Pop Goes The Den With Simon Young (45450609) **4.20** Animaniacs (25433406) **4.50** The Joke Box (87930767) **4.55** The Cosby Show (12104845) **5.20** Tintin (99714086) *5.55 Katts And Dog (55219048)* **6.20** Classic Adventure (43547406) **6.55** Nuacht (48730208) **7.00** Cursai (37603203) **7.30** Coronation Street (26907680) **8.00** News (44867048) **8.05** Film: The Blackboard Jungle (78571295) **8.30** The Wonder Years (37631086) **9.00** Roseanne (15856425) **9.30** News Headlines (80245357) **9.35** Italian Soccer (97749086) **10.30** The 1993 World Music Awards

RADIO 3

6.55 Weather 7.00 On Air: Handel *(Concerto Grosso in G, Op 6 No 1)*; Mendelssohn (Song without Words in E, Op 19 No 1); Respighi (Adagio con *variazioni*); Mozart (Symphony No 32 in G, K318); Vaughan Williams (Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus); Bruch (Concerto for two pianos)

9.00 Composer of the Week: Elgar (Overture, The Wand of Youth; Une Idylle; Salut d'amour; The Challenge of Thor; King Olaf heard the Cry, The Saga of King Olaf; Enigma Variations)

10.00 Musical Encounters: Krebs (Fantasia *No 2 in F*); Arne (Three Shakespeare Songs); Schubert (Symphony No 1 in D); **10.35** Artist of the Week: James Galway, flute, plays Vivaldi (Concerto in E, Spring, RV269); Strauss (Horn Concerto No 2 in E flat); Amy Beach *(Piano Trio in A minor,* Op 150); **11.25** Schubert (Symphony No 2 in B flat)

12.00 Angles on Puccini: Andrew *Lloyd Webber talks to James* Naughtie (r) **1.00pm News**

1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert: Colin Carr plays Bach (Cello Suites: *No 2 in D minor,* BWV 1008; No 6 in D, BWV 1012)

2.00 A Dutch Retrospect: Mosolov (The Foundry); Ives (The *Unanswered Question*); Varèse (Arcana); Peter Schat (The Heavens)

3.20 All the Music's a Stage: Graham Fawcett explores aspects of Shakespeare through music (1/6)

3.40 Music for Organ: Richard Coulson plays French music

4.25 A Different Rhythm: Alex Pascall looks at the impact of *black music* and musicians on the British music scene

4.55 A Musician's Musician: The pianist Mitsuko Uchida talks to *Natalie Wheen* about the Hungarian-born violinist Joseph Szigeti

6.55 A Most Disreputable Profession: John Rosselli concludes his series on singing opera for a living

7.25 On the Town: In a simultaneous broadcast with BBC2, London Voices and the LSO under Michael Tilson Thomas perform Leonard Bernstein's musical. Recorded at the Barbican in June 1992 with Frederica Von Stade as Claire de Loone and Tyne Daly as Hildy. *Narrated by* Betty Comden and Adolph Green

9.05 The Incomparable Max: Memoirs of the caricaturist and parodist Max Beerbohm

9.20 Piano Duets: Burney (Sonata in F); Hummel (Grand Sonata in A flat, Op 92)

10.00 Lutoslawski: Grave; Sacher Variations; Preludes and Fugue (Christopher van Kampen, cello; London Sinfonietta under Howarth) (r)

10.45 Mixing It, with Robert Sandall and Mark Russell

11.30 Music Restored: Alessandro Scarlatti (Venere e Adone: Catherine Pierard, soprano, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, mezzo; St James's Baroque Players under Ivor Bolton)

12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.40** *The Magic of My Youth:* Arthur Calder-Marshall's autobiography **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week: *Melvyn Bragg's guests include* Andrew Lloyd Webber

10.00-10.30 Questions of Taste (FM only): Hosted by Chris Kelly from King's School, Canterbury. With Oz Clarke, Antony Worral Thompson and Jennifer Paterson

10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only) from Down Cathedral, Downpatrick

10.15 The Bible (LW only): Matthew. Derek Jacobi reads the fifth of ten parts (r)

10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to Joanna Foster, the British chairperson of the International Year of the Family; and there is the first of a year-long series of visits to eight families from around the world. Incl **11.00 News**

11.30 Money Box Live, with Vincent Duggleby

12.00 News; You and Yours, with John Howard

12.25pm My Music: Steve Race chairs the musical panel *game, with John Amis, Frank* Muir, Ian Wallace and Denis Norden **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping

2.00 News; The Lintel: A ghost story by Albert Welling (r)

3.00 The Changing Room (r)

3.30 Bamboo and Barbed Wire. See Choice

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews the music of Palestrina 400 years after his death

4.45 Short Story: I Will Be Nicer, by Nigel Williams. Read by Nigel Anthony

5.00 PM with *Huw Edwards and* Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Just a Minute (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper

7.45 The Monday Play: Nativity, by Nigel Williams (r)

9.00 A Short Diversion: Alex Ferguson leaves the A1 to *examine the work of the* pitmen painters of Ashington

9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)

9.45 The Financial World Tonight **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Changes of Address, by Lee Langley. Read by Juliet Stevenson (4/8)

11.00 Discursive Excursions: Bill Howell, Josh Hall and Robin Knox-Johnson relive their long-distance, single-handed ocean voyages (r)

11.30 *Poetry Please!* *introduced by* Simon Rae

12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** *As World Service (LW only)*

CHOICE

Bamboo and Barbed Wire. *Radio 4, 3.30pm.*

This, with a big difference, *is Tenko revisited. No actors or* scriptwriters here. No make-up girls waiting to apply dirt to faces and sores to feet; no cool drinks waiting to be served between takes. *Bamboo and Barbed Wire* collects the memories of British women interned by the Japanese during the last war. One minute, these wives of tea planters and civil servants were living off the fat of the land. The next, they were herded in camps, sometimes 500 to a hut, eating worms for the protein that was in them. This documentary *tells us* that *Tenko* got a lot of things right.

Musical Landscapes. *Classic FM, 7.00pm.*

John Chandler embarks on a series of scenic, historical, literary and romantic tours through Britain. As this is Classic FM, his motivation is *musical,* and his launching programme about Cornwall draws evocatively on the music of native Cornishmen such as George Lloyd as well as Cornwall-inspired composers such as Malcolm Arnold, Finzi, Bax and, inevitably, Hubert Bath who filmically begat the *Cornish Rhapsody.* Next week: Sussex.

Peter Davalle



WAKE UP TO A CLASSIC BREAKFAST SHOW.
DAILY 6-9AM.
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (89487628) **8.40** Lamb Chops (7695241) **9.10** Cartoons (2317777) *9.30 Card Sharks (61715) 9.55 Concentration* (2959357) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (6472390) **10.30** Love at First Sight (17406) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (55203) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (31086) **12.30pm** Paradise Beach (32203) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (60086) **2.00** Masada (30406) **3.00** Another World (6001715) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (2694222) **6.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4046) **6.00** Games World (7241) **6.30** Paradise Beach (8593) **7.00** Rescue (5777) **7.30** Growing Pains (4777) **8.00** The Heroes (10929) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (88406) **11.00** The Untouchables (76796) **12.00** The Streets of San Francisco (95520) **1.00am** Night Court (90623) **1.30-2.00** Maniac Mansion (20365)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise Europe (62154) **9.30** Roving Report (76425) **10.30** The Book Show (26932) *11.30 Japan Business (82390)* **12.30pm** News/Business (37048) **1.30** CBS News (38777) **4.30** News/Business (4390) **6.00** Live at Five (213116) **7.30** Special Report (2319) **9.30** Talkback (50609) **11.30** CBS News (30796) **12.30am** ABC News (42029) **1.30** Special Report (27013) **2.30** Travel Destinations (55433) **3.30** Talkback (67278) **4.30** Special Report (55384) **5.30-6.00** *CBS News (65094)*

SKY MOVIES

6.05am Showcase (29379203)
10.00 Jack and the Beanstalk (1952): Abbott and Costello version (65105593)
11.50 Murder on the Orient Express (1974): Agatha Christie suspense story with Albert Finney as Hercule Poirot (14434203)
2.00pm Car Wash (1976). Funky disco musical with Richard Pryor (60406)
4.00 Talent for the Game (1991): An unknown pitcher becomes a star player for a *baseball team* (2680)
6.00 The Long Walk Home (1989): Housewife Sissy Spacek and maid Whoopi Goldberg form an unlikely alliance (82222)
8.00 Black Robe (1991) A Jesuit priest attempts to reach a remote outpost (94067)
10.00 Tales from the Dark Side (1990). Deborah Harry and Christian Slater star in three stories of terror (174357)
11.35 By the Sword (1991): Fencing drama featuring F Murray Abraham (691048)
1.30am Dead Silence (1991) Three youngsters are plagued by guilt after killing a stranger in a hit-and-run accident (25655)
3.00 Vietnam War Story: The Last Days (1990): A trilogy of films based on true incidents from the Vietnam War (8091467)
4.25 The Long Walk Home (as 6pm) (391825). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Some Like It Hot (1959, b/w). Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon dress up in drag to escape from the mob (96186680)
8.05 Rocky II (1979): Sylvester Stallone steps back in to the ring (80987777)
10.05 Stay Hungry (1976): Jeff Bridges befriends bodybuilders, including Arnold Schwarzenegger (446951). Ends at 11.45

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am King Richard and the Crusaders (1954) Epic drama starring Rex Harrison and Virginia Mayo (86951)
8.00 Where the Red Fern Grows (1974): *Family saga about an injured soldier* (52628)
10.00 Sideout (1990) A student and a drifter enter a volleyball contest (34651)
12.00 Robin Hood: Animated version of the *children's favourite* (44048)
1.00pm Three Musketeers Adaptation of Alexandre Dumas's classic story (53796)
2.00 Final Verdict (1991) The story of *1920s defence lawyer Earl Rogers* (60488)
4.00 Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey (1991): Dudes Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter meet the Grim Reaper With William Sadler (8262)
6.00 Curly Sue (1991): James Belushi and toddler plan to con a woman (80864)
8.00 Blame It on the Bellboy (1991). Three guests with similar names book into a Venetian hotel in this British farce (92609)
10.00 Mortal Thoughts (1991) Demi Moore plays a hairdresser at the centre of a murder enquiry (530864)
11.45 Pump Up the Volume (1990): Christian Slater becomes a DJ (864375)
1.30am Bed and Breakfast (1991). Three women fall for a conman (563723)
3.05 Skidoo (1968) Gangster comedy with Jackie Gleason (60251704). Ends at 4.45

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Prime Bodies (93226) **7.30** Kick Boxing (84319) **8.30** World Sports (13777) **9.00** Prime Bodies (37357) **9.30** Top 100 Goals of 1993 (10883) *10.30 The Big League* (47390) **12.30pm** Darts (60241) **2.30** Fishing (4870) **3.00** Snowboarding (5628) **3.30** Trucks and Tractors (2715) **4.00** Basketball (6116) **6.00** Soccer News (413628) **6.15** WWF (190796) **7.00** Football (61922067) **10.15** Soccer News (995048) **10.30** The Football Quiz (27970) **11.00** Ringside (10154) **12.00-2.00am** Football (37520)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Step Aerobics (15609) **8.00** Gymnastics (96086) **10.00** Dancing (43703) *11.00 Acrobatics (24357) 12.00 Motorsport* (55241) **1.00pm** Rallying (95845) **2.30** Triathlon (18357) **4.00** Eurofun Magazine (6390) **4.30** Surf Fun (49574) **5.30** The Whitbread Race (39661) **6.30** Eurosport News (4319) **7.00** Drag Racing (2777) **7.30** Nascar Magazine (43574) **8.30** Rallying (1112) **9.00** Boxing (30883) **10.00** Eurogoals (33970) **11.00** Trucks (92135) **11.30** Rallying (95357) **12.00-12.30am** *Eurosport (39839)*

UK GOLD

7.00am The Sullivans (6362406) **8.00** Neighbours *(7709406)* *8.30 EastEnders* (7708777) **9.00** The Bill (7722357) **9.30** Nanny (6900609) **10.30** Rockcliffe's Babies (6338864) **11.30** The Sullivans (6598154) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8094338) **1.00** EastEnders (1850681) **1.30** The Bill (9093609) **2.00** Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width (5638932) **2.30** Shelley (1923999) **3.00** Dallas (7895338) **4.00** Dynasty (7504116) *4.55 Blankety Blank (57277628) 5.25 Give* Us a Clue (62845609) **5.55** Happy Ever After (1935715) **6.30** EastEnders (1908680) **7.00** Nanny (3317086) **8.00** Never Mind the Quality (5658796) **8.30** Shelley (5637203) **9.00** FILM: No Way Out (1987) Political thriller with Kevin Costner (3398593) **11.00** FILM: Bull Durham (1988) Baseball groupie Susan Sarandon pursues two players *(3481512)* *12.55am Video Bites (1103510)* **1.45** Night Shopping (17943346)

CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am RatKan II (77512) 6.30 Spill and Hercules (80512) **7.00** Bears Island (3092116) **7.20** Dogtanian (527203) **7.45** Pugwall (526574) **8.15** Head to Head (8981932) **9.00** Droibee Time (81241) **11.00** RatKan II (26116) **11.30** Spill and Hercules (27845) **12.00** Bears Island (8076951) **12.20pm** Dogtanian (145574) **12.45** Pugwall (148845) **1.15** Head to Head (55165864) **1.30** *Teddy Ruxpin (25837)* **2.30** Cupido (1709154) **2.45** Babar (169609) **3.15** RatKan II (8662512) **3.20** Baby Follies (6098777) **3.40** Ovide and the Gang (4011609) **3.55** Head to Head (8710864) **4.00** Chestnut Soldier (8932) **4.30-5.00** T-Rex (2116)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Dawn Patrol (93208) **7.30** Guts (11883) **8.00** Rugrats (12048) **8.30** Fraggle Rock (11319) **9.00** Out of Control (35999) **9.30** Kablooey (45864) **10.00** Wisdom of the Gnomes (79319) **10.30** We All Have Tales (24883) **11.00** Cartoons (13628) **11.30** Wild Side (14357) **12.00** Zany Adventures (15135) **12.30pm** David the Gnome (49680) **1.00** Storytime (43749) **1.30** Eureeka (72135) **2.30** Fraggle Rock (8512) **3.00** Zany Adventures (6970) **3.30** Speed Racer (9947) **4.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9864) **4.30** Get the Picture (5048) **5.00** Clarissa *(8715)* **5.30** Guts *(9628)* **6.00** Rugrats *(9241)* **6.30-7.00** Animal Antics (9703)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Nature by Profession (7805715) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (5650154) **5.30** Terra X (1925357) **6.00** Only in Hollywood (4850319) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (1713845) **7.00** Fastest Men (5630390) **7.30** Spirit of Survival (1902406) **8.00** Secret Intelligence (3391048) **9.00** Going Places (3304512) **10.00** Search for Adventure (3314999) *11.00-12.00 Wild South (1888880)*

BRAVO

12.00 Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (7797861) **12.30pm** FILM: Blackbeard the Pirate (1952): Swashbuckling adventure with Robert Newton (16874864) **2.15** FILM: Final Appointment (1954, b/w): A reporter hunts a murderer (26543661) **3.30** The Passage (1913512) **4.00** The Flying Nun (1909319) *4.30 My Three Sons (1998203) 5.00 The* Beverly Hillbillies (5647680) **5.30** Donny and Marie (1912683) **6.00** I Spy (9097425) **7.00** Cannon (3302154) **8.00** FILM: The Man Upstairs (1958, b/w): Psychological thriller with Richard Attenborough (59536357) **9.40** 1959 Styles (1773390) **10.00** FILM: The Night Has Eyes (1942, b/w): Spooky melodrama (1329067) **11.30-12.00** *The Twilight Zone (5597672)*

UK LIVING

7.00am Jayne and Friends (3527999) **8.00** Fame and Fortune (9605390) *8.30 Living* Daylights (3088338) **9.45** Yoga (3076593) **9.00** Divorce Court (9828241) **9.30** Hot Topics (6700777) **10.00** Health UK (3092845) **10.30** Living Extra (9824425) **11.00** On the House (3369715) **11.30** Della Smith (3337116) **12.00** Practical Living (61539715) **12.15pm** Kilroy (1499845) **1.00** Crosswits (7044425) **1.30** Divorce Court *(6703864) 2.00 Days of Our Lives (3093574)* **3.00** Agony Hour (3331932) **4.00** Crosswits (7560651) **4.30** Infatuation (7586845) **5.00** Jayne and Friends (5352661) **6.00** Dr Ruth (7507338) **6.30** Ken Hom (7581390) **7.00** Agony Hour (5878154) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (5854574) **9.00** FILM: Frances (1982) The story of actress Frances Farmer (4835680) **11.30** Infatuation (3021357) **12.00-1.00am** *Days of Our Lives (3401907)*

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Wonder Years (1999) **5.30** Zorro (6786) *6.00 Where I Live (3608) 6.30 Family* Catchphrase (7661) **7.00** Pyramid Game (1135) **7.30** Clued Up (3845) **8.00** Altogether Now (7393) **8.30** GP (9390) **9.00** Lou Grant (70425) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (50222) **10.30** Rhoda (69970) **11.00** Remington Steele (10241) **12.00-1.00am** Big Valley (68278)

MTV

6.00am Wild Side (986593) **9.00** VJ Ingo (646715) **12.00** Greatest Hits (80951) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (760574) **3.30** The Report (4017883) **3.45** At the Movies (4012338) **4.00** News (7251086) *4.15 3 from* 1 (7241609) **4.30** Dial MTV (4574) **5.00** Hit List UK (49116) **7.00** Free Your Mind (83699) **8.00** Music Non-Stop (69319) **9.00** Greatest Hits (72883) **10.00** The Report (790680) **10.15** At the Movies (795135) **10.30** News (546319) **10.45** 3 from 1 (534574) **11.00** Rock (69703) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (37146) **2.00-6.00** Videos (9723487)

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (71338) **7.00** Gujarati, Bengali and Punjabi News (30749) **7.30** Asian Morning (17154) *8.00 Hindi News* (43932) **8.30** Urdu News (1263970) **8.45** English News (1268425) **9.00** Hisaar (80085) **10.00** Pakistani FILM (642999) **1.00pm** New Serial (97390) **1.30** FILM: Laila Majnu (545512) **4.30** Kiddie Time (2970) **5.00-6.00** Your Dedications (7932) **7.00** Face to Face (14845) **8.00** English News (100357) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Sir (39722661) **11.15** Cheena Mook (319777) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (2465839) **1.35** Sight and Sound (37957891)

TNT

Theme: A Birthday Tribute to Marion Davies
7.00pm Going Hollywood (1933, b/w) A schoolmarm and a seductress vie for the attentions of a singer (41708512)
8.20 Hearts Divided (1936, b/w): A Baltimore society woman marries Napoleon's brother (50420405)
9.50 Polly of the Circus (1932, b/w) A minister falls for an acrobat (78555512)
11.10 Operator 13 (1934, b/w) The story of an actress who becomes a spy (66815777)
12.50am Peg o' My Heart (1933, b/w) A shy Irish girl inherits a fortune (34026365)
2.30 Blondie of the Follies (1932, b/w): Two showgirls fight over Robert Montgomery (35746100). Ends at **4.00**

CNN

Twenty-four hour news

CMT

Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC

Home shopping channel

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.

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BUSINESS

LEADERLESS LEEDS 30

SEARCH GOES ON FOR BUILDING SOCIETY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MONDAY JANUARY 3 1994

BUSINESS EDITOR ROBERT BALLANTYNE 10

BAe in talks to sell space business

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Aerospace is in discussions that are expected to lead to the disposal of its Space Systems business and an eventual joint venture solution to losses at Jetstream Aircraft, the turboprop manufacturer.

Agreements would help Britain's largest manufacturer realise its goal of rebuilding profitability by focusing on defence equipment and motor cars and on partnership production of civil aircraft.

Workers at the Space Systems business, which employs nearly 1,000 at Filton, near Bristol and Stevenage, Hertfordshire, have been told of talks over a possible sale to Matra Marconi. The would-be buyer is a joint venture between France's Matra Hachette and Marconi, Britain's second biggest defence group, which is part of GEC.

Disposal of Space Systems would end BAe's role as Britain's leading satellite maker. It would also raise questions over the future of the Horizontal Take-Off and Landing launcher (Hotol) study which Space Systems has been conducting on behalf of its parent company.

BAe is also understood to be making progress in discussions with rival manufacturers over the future of its turboprop regional aircraft business, which lost £60 million in the first half of the year.

Talks are understood to centre upon a possible link with Avions de Transport Régionale (ATR), a successful joint venture between Aérospatiale of France and Alenia of Italy.

French government ambitions to privatise Aérospatiale as part of its on-going privatisation programme, combined with declining enthusiasm for government intervention in Italy, are believed to have contributed to an increased willingness by ATR's parents to join BAe in seeking a joint solution to the problem of global over-capacity in regional aircraft production.

BAe's Jetstream Aircraft business, based at Prestwick, Strathclyde, has sold more than 370 turboprop planes in the nine to 29-seat range while ATR, based at Toulouse, is strong in larger aircraft.

The ATR 42 and ATR 72, with 40 and 70 seats respectively, are technically sophisticated, commercially successful aircraft which have won orders for 500 of each type.

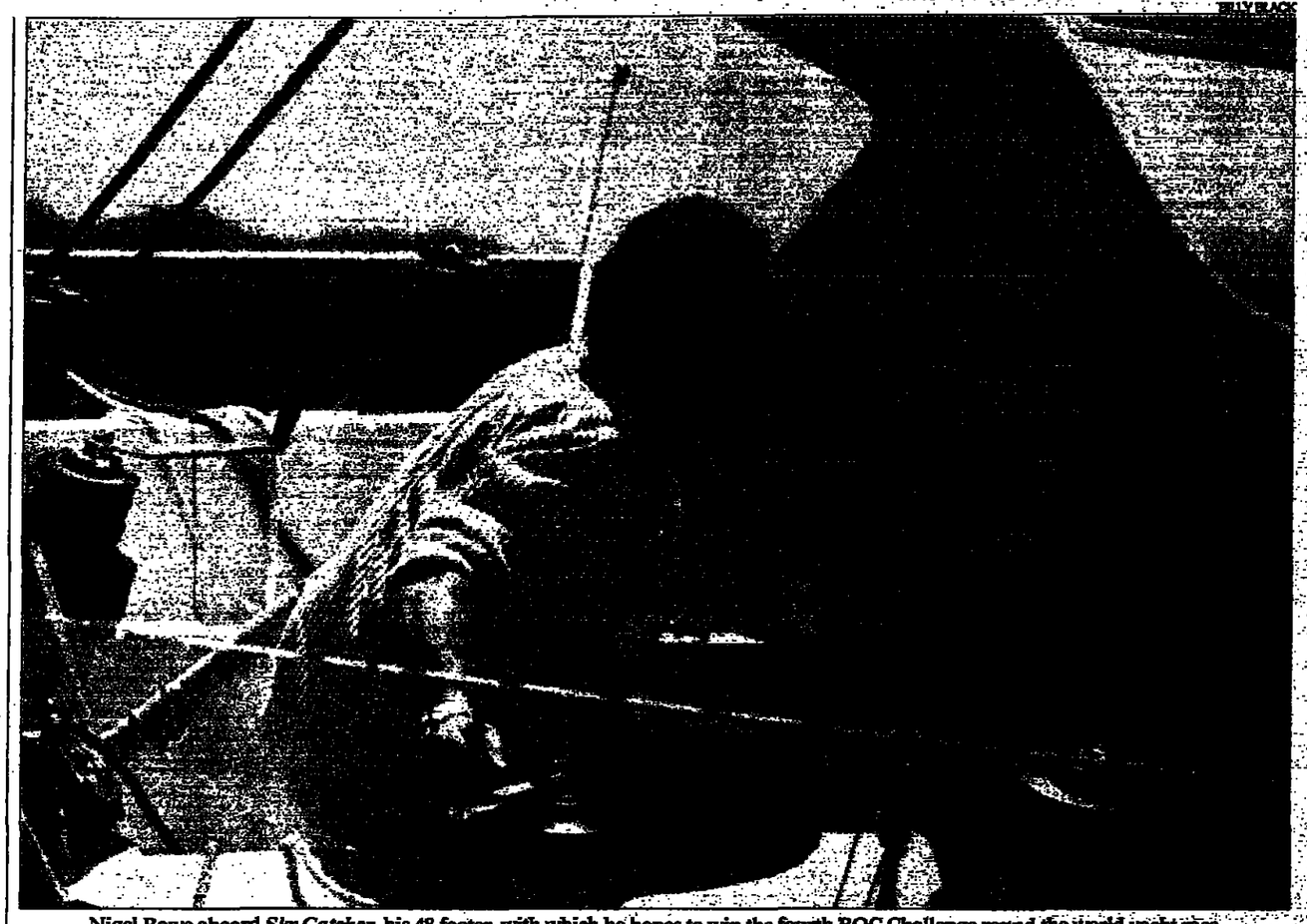
The ATR's success is in sharp contrast to BAe's 64/72 seat ATP, now being redeveloped as the Jetstream 61 to compete head-on with the ATR 72. Only eight Jetstream 61s have been ordered.

BAe realised more than £325 million from disposals last year, including £175 million from its Ballast Nedam construction arm. The balance sheet is now believed to be strong enough to carry the costs of ending Jestream 61 production and to write off the historic costs of developing the smaller Jetstream planes.

Concentrating on production of small planes at Prestwick, combined with cost savings already achieved by rationalisation and the write-off of historic costs, might be sufficient to stem losses.

Such a strategy would mimic that adopted by BAe at its Avro International Aerospace subsidiary, which builds regional jets at Woodford, near Chester. Although talks with Taiwan Aerospace Corporation about a joint venture are on hold, BAe has succeeded in returning Avro to break even and says it is now committed to the business. BAe is continuing to explore other opportunities for sharing risks, costs and markets in turboprops.

☐ Doubts were raised about the future of John Cahill, BAe's chairman, after a report in a Sunday newspaper claimed he would step down this year. Mr Cahill, who joined BAe from BTR in May 1992, has a five-year contract until April 1997. BAe said the report was "entirely speculative. The chairman has no plans to retire".



BILLY BLACK

Nigel Rowe aboard *Sky Catcher*, his 48-footer, with which he hopes to win the fourth BOC Challenge round the world yacht race

BOC man weighs anchor to go solo

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

TO SAIL round the world is a common dream. The 2,600 readers of *The Times* who applied last year for two berths on Chay Blyth's *Ocean Challenge* in 1996 attest to that. For most, a dream is all it is.

However, one executive whose sponsorship vision in the past decade has made it possible for 40 others to join the hallowed ranks of solo circumnavigators, is to have a go himself. Nigel Rowe, chief executive, corporate relations, at BOC Group, and mastermind of three round the world races, is to cut corporate ties and compete in the fourth BOC Challenge, starting from South Carolina on September 17.

When Mr Rowe, 53, persuaded BOC to take the opportunity of sponsoring the first solo race in 1982, the furthest he had ever sailed had been a tentative Channel crossing to Cherbourg.

But after a solo circumnavigation of the Isle of Wight and a trip across the Bay of Biscay, with Anthony, his son, as crew, he was bitten by the bug, bought a purpose-built 40-footer and entered the 1985 2-man Round Britain Race. He later bought a boat for the 1988 singlehanded transatlantic race.

He said: "That was really the turning point. Once I had crossed the Atlantic alone, the idea of racing around the world became something of a personal commitment."

Now, after two transatlantic crossings and a second place in last summer's shorthanded race to Bermuda and back in his latest 48ft *Sky Catcher*, he is ready to take on the world. "I expect to be among those who complete the circumnavigation."

Imro aims to fine rogue managers

BY LINDSAY COOK, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

INVESTMENT managers will face personal fines if a consultative document, to be published in the next ten days, is implemented.

The Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro) is concerned about individuals who have been able to move from one fund management company to another after being disciplined for bad selling techniques. Such individuals can start again without their history at another member firm, or a company authorised by one of the other regulators, being known.

Imro's tougher regime could be in place by the summer if investment managers and financial advisers support the proposals.

Imro has 1,200 member firms and does not know who works for them. It estimates that up to 35,000 individuals will be more directly regulated when the register is operating.

The consultative document sets out details of a proposed register of individuals.

Phillip Thorpe, chief executive of Imro, said: "Individuals would be exposed to the same disciplinary process as firms. Individuals have to take responsibility for their actions." Currently, Imro has no sanctions against individual employees. Mr Thorpe said: "If a firm is disciplined, the individuals could lose their jobs, but this is too remote. Individual fines must be a possibility."

The Securities and Futures Authority already operates individual registration. Mr Thorpe said all the regulators were working together to prevent rogues moving around the industry.

Imro was also co-operating fully with the Personal Investment Authority, which will take over the regulation of firms dealing directly with private investors in the coming months.

Dairy Crest flotation faces delay

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

THE £250 million stock market flotation of Dairy Crest, the dairy products arm of the Milk Marketing Board, scheduled for next month, is likely to be delayed.

Dairy Crest has been caught in the crossfire of a dispute between the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff) and the Dairy Trade Federation, the trade body representing dairy manufacturers. The federation is objecting to certain elements in the scheme proposed by the Milk Marketing Board to transform itself into Milk Marque, a farmers' voluntary co-operative.

Although the bone of contention is not believed to involve Dairy Crest, it cannot proceed with its flotation until a new scheme is approved. Officials of Maff, the Milk Marketing Board and the Dairy Trade Federation are due to meet this week to reconcile their differences.

Carmakers ready for bumper 1994

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SALES of new cars this year could surge to almost two million, the highest annual total for three years. Figures to be announced this week by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) are expected to show registrations for last year at about 1.77 million — about 170,000 ahead of the dismal performance of 1992.

But carmakers are already looking to 1994 — with low interest rates and increased confidence — to boost sales to pre-recession levels. *Glass's Guide*, the authoritative motor industry analyst, estimates sales could hit 1.95 million this year, the highest since 1990.

Used car sales could also surge, from 3 million to 3.3 million, as part exchanges boom. The SMMT is more cautious, suggesting sales at 1.86 million, but *Glass's Guide* predictions are encouraged by a series of strong performances in new car sales over the last few months. Those signal a turnaround from the sudden collapse of the industry, which lost sales worth an estimated £6.5 billion in the two years from 1990.

Last year's steady improvement surged towards the end of the year, with November sales up more than 19 per cent. Figures being calculated today at the SMMT for the whole of 1993 should confirm that carmakers have turned the corner.

Ford is still the market leader, although with a much reduced market share of about 21.5 per cent. Second place is taken for the first time by Renault, Peugeot and Citroen, the big French national grouping, ahead of Vauxhall and Rover.

The French have taken nearly 18 per cent of all British sales in 1993, becoming the most powerful national grouping ahead of the Japanese and Germans.

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.33	2.13
Austria Sch	18.95	17.45
Belgium Fr	58.25	51.85
Canada $	2.092	1.932
Cyprus CypE	0.782	0.742
Denmark Kr	10.57	9.77
Finland Mkk	9.21	8.41
France Fr	9.13	8.43
Germany Dm	2.70	2.49
Greece Dr	386.50	363.50
Hong Kong $	12.12	11.12
Iceland Pr	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2820.00	2495.00
Japan Yen	181.00	164.00
Malta	0.692	0.577
Netherlands Gld	3.097	2.777
Norway Kr	11.85	10.85
Portugal Esc	271.00	252.50
S Africa Rd	5.80	4.90
Spain Pta	219.50	205.50
Sweden Kr	12.86	12.08
Switzerland Fr	2.30	2.12
Turkey Lira	21890.0	20390.0
USA $	1.592	1.462

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Friday.

Why Sully sallies forth to Sainsbury's

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

ROGER Palmer of Kleinwort Benson, famous for his pet wolves, may care to compare notes with Colin Sully, central facilities manager for Coopers & Lybrand's various London offices. In what must be a City record, Sully keeps no fewer than 270 animals on his four-acre plot at Gomshaw, near Guildford — and has his share of stories. Raccoons, it seems, like to dip their food in water before they eat it, and this had dire implications for a former pet called Rocky who dipped his paws in a tin of black gloss paint — then covered the house in little black paw prints. In a more macabre episode, Sully's parent's 16-year-old dog drowned after falling into a fishpond, and he spent eight hours blow-drying it to make it look more presentable before breaking the bad news. Sully's menagerie includes two Saint Bernards, three bearded collies, five cats, and innumerable sheep, goats, parrots, badgers and foxes. "My weekends are taken up with trips to Sainsbury's," he laments. Could be good for the shares.

Bowled over

ADVERTISING prices for a slot at the Super Bowl, America's premier football event, have climbed to a new record of $30,000 a second. The usual 30-second slot will cost the equivalent annual pay for 30 first-year advertising executives. But Dr Pepper, the drinks firm where Cadbury has recently raised its stake, thinks the near-$1 million for a 30-second slot is worth every penny. Audience figures are expected to top 133 million, more than the Academy Awards, or the last episode of Cheers. With less than a month to go NBC, the television network, has eight of 56 half-minute slots unsold, implying it will take in total revenue of more than $50 million for half an hour's screening.

Caley's birthday

AS the Queens Moat Houses saga drones on, one of its principal assets has been throwing a party. The five-star Caledonian Hotel at the west end of Princes Street in Edinburgh has just had the Charlotte Square mob round for a roaring 90th birthday bash. "The Caley", as it is affectionately known, has planted a copse of ten oak trees in Princes Street Gardens — a vote of confidence in the future, perhaps. The Caledonian came to the Queens Moat stable by a distinctly circuitous route. Owned, in the post-war years, by British Transport Hotels, it was sold to Gleneagles Hotels in 1981 along with its sister, the North British, and ended up in the hands of Norfolk Capital Hotels in 1986. Queens Moat came on the scene just over three years later. Whatever the problems of its current parent, the Caley steams on regardless. Its distinguished history is commemorated in a new booklet: *Luxury, Edinburgh*, which takes its name from the hotel's telegraphic address when it opened in December 1903.

JON ASHWORTH

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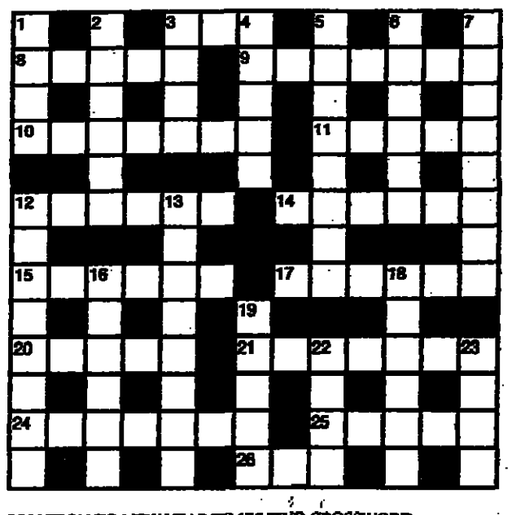
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SOLUTION TO NEW YEAR TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 Take the rough with the smooth 14 In-trays 15 Cutting in 16 Redevelop 18 Ochre 19 Element 20 Trial marriage 21 Tangled 23 Tusker 24 Snag 25 Eyesore 26 Epigrammatic 27 Edible 30 Katydid 33 Rake's progress 36 Self-possessed 37 Undeniable 40 Sinister 41 Reclimb 44 Despair 45 Ice-field 46 Parliament 48 Persian carpet 49 Roulette table 52 Absence 53 Plural 54 Cephalopodic 58 Town gas 61 Cook 62 Olivia 63 Strap up 65 Curtain raiser 66 Minutes 68 Salve 69 Llandudno 70 Gazetteer 71 Glottal 72 There isn't grass to graze a cow

DOWN: 1 Thin on the ground 2 Kitchen-sink 3 Traveller 4 Ensue 5 Orchestra 6 Gunnersnipes 7 Whistler 8 Tights 9 Tintinnabulate 10 Earplug 11 Mediate 12 Obverse 13 Half as old as time 17 Pretended 22 Demur 28 Distillery 29 Expurgate 30 Kestrel 31 Trenchant 32 Aspidistra 34 Sensation 35 Gallwasp 38 Distress-warrant 39 Arrange 42 Buttercup yellow 43 Keep out of sight 47 Supervenient 48 Practical 50 Talus 51 Body politic 55 Hearthrug 56 Periscope 57 Clematis 59 Grandee 60 Sine die 61 Chamois 64 Frazer 67 Sigma

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 52

ACROSS
3 Call of dove (3)
8 Attractive-looking (5)
9 Crash together (7)
10 Wife of Oberon (7)
11 Apple drink (5)
12 Large stone for building (6)
14 Spider's trap (6)
15 Scene of event (6)
17 Food heavy on stomach (6)
20 African republic, capital Libreville (5)
21 Weapon used against Moby Dick (7)
24 Cattle thief (7)
25 Instrument held between knees (5)
26 Clue to decoding (3)

DOWN
1 Adjoin (4)
2 Grab (6)
3 Greenish-blue (4)
4 Great sea (5)
5 Loss of consciousness (8)
6 Short period of opportunity (6)
7 Nickname of Tsar Ivan (8)
12 Story with symbolic meaning (8)
13 Taking one thing with another (3,2,3)
16 Artistic movement of Braque, Picasso (6)
18 Draw aimlessly (6)
19 Unscrupulous swindler (5)
22 Vigorous, slightly risque (4)
23 Midday (4)

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Szekely - Tseitlin, Hastings Masters, 1990. Black appears to have a very solid position, but White's next move shattered this illusion. What did he play?

This year's Hastings Premier is now underway at the Cinque Ports Hotel in Hastings and runs until January 6. For details ring 0424 445348.



Solution, page 20

By Philip Howard

DISBALASS
a. A Highland dancing girl
b. To unload
c. A lagan rock

ENCEUR
a. Symbolic hearts in heraldry
b. To stuff
c. A disease of horses

ALGOLOGIST
a. A student of seaweed
b. An Arabic mathematician
c. Suffering pain stoically

BIFID
a. Treacherous
b. The double fiddle
c. Split in two

Answers on page 20